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2008

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Alberta Guide to Hunting Regulations



Photo Gordon Court

Important Changes - page 12

Sunrise/Sunset Table - page 52 & 53

Alberta Hunters of the Year - page 96

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2008 Deer Hunters

Your Role in CWD Surveillance

With the discovery of chronic wasting disease (CWD) in wild deer in Alberta, the ongoing Chronic Wasting Disease Surveillance program is targeting the wildlife management units (WMUs) along the Alberta/Saskatchewan border, as indicated on the right side of the map.

It is a mandatory requirement for hunters to submit heads from all deer harvested in WMUs 148, 150, 151, 162 EAST of Sec. Rd. 886, 163, 200, 234, 236, 256, 500 and 730 for CWD testing.

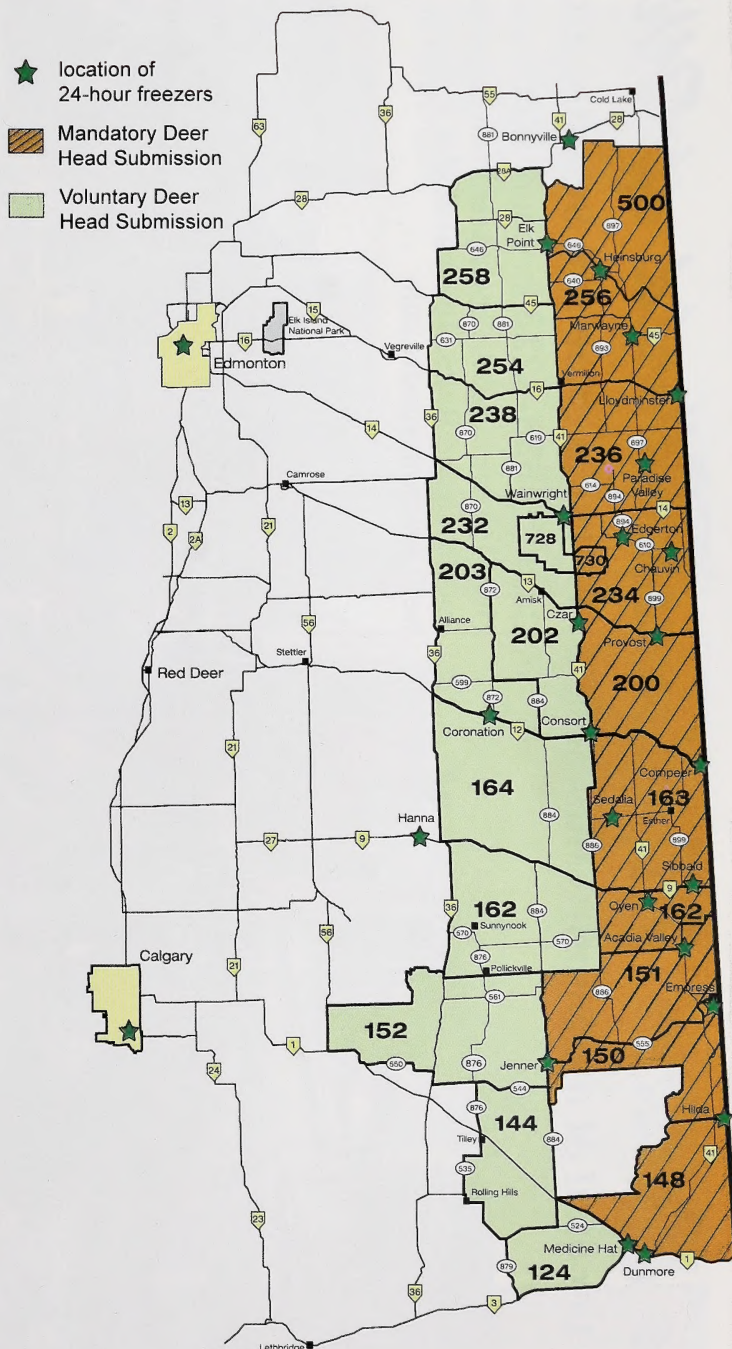
Voluntary submission of deer heads is encouraged from WMUs 124, 144, 152, 162 WEST of Sec. Rd. 886, 164, 202, 203, 232, 238, 254, 258, and 728.

Heads for CWD testing must have a green label. The labeling system provides a unique identification number for each deer head submitted. Labels and instructions are available at Fish and Wildlife offices and at 24-hour freezer locations (additional freezer locations available in late September). Heads should be kept frozen and dropped off at any Fish and Wildlife office or at any of the freezers located in the target areas. CWD test results will be made available to hunters.

In addition to the regular hunting seasons, CWD Control Area deer licences are offered for portions of WMUs 150, 151, 163, 236, 256, and all of WMU 234 to help reduce deer numbers and prevent the spread of CWD. Contact your local Fish and Wildlife office for more details or see page 69 of the 2008 *Alberta Guide to Hunting Regulations*.

For more detailed information about CWD visit the Alberta Sustainable Resource Development, wildlife diseases website www.srd.gov.ab.ca/fishwildlife/livingwith/diseases or contact Dr. M. Pybus (780) 427-3462 - for toll free dial 310-0000 first.

There is no scientific evidence to suggest that CWD can affect humans. As a precaution, the World Health Organization advises against allowing products from animals known to be infected with any prion disease into the food chain.



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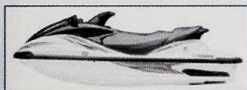
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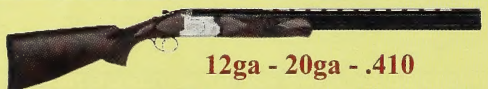
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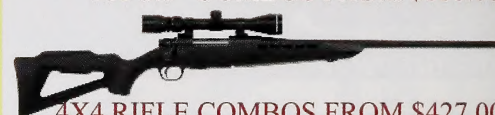
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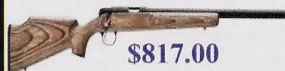


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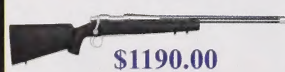
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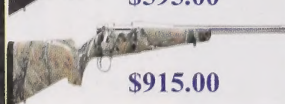
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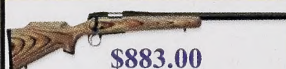
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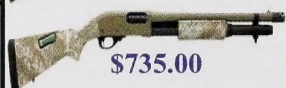
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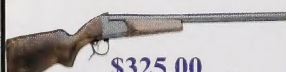
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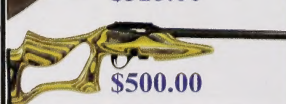
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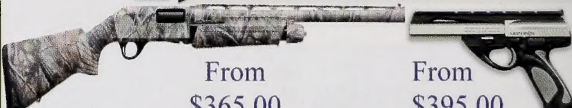
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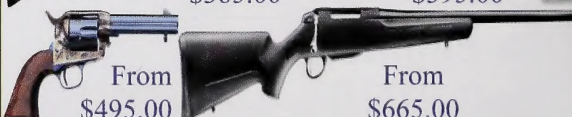
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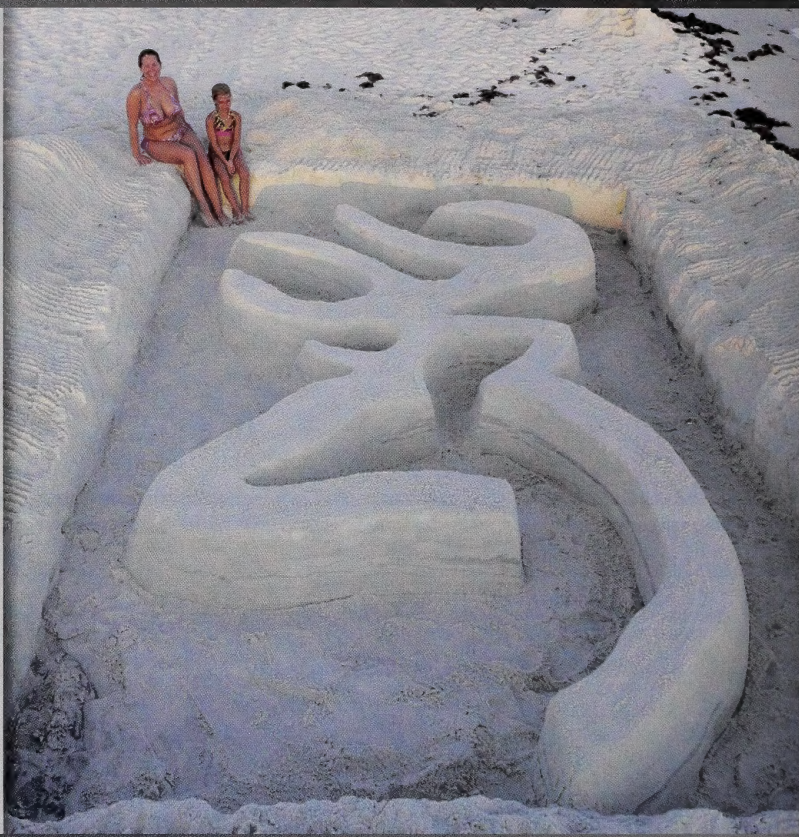
Dale Watson is as passionate about the outdoors as a person gets.

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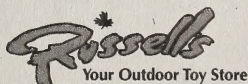
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MINISTER'S MESSAGE



Alberta has achieved world-wide recognition for its game-bird and big-game hunting. Sustainable Resource Development values this legacy, and is proposing some exciting innovations to ensure Alberta's hunting tradition remains vital.

In 2008, we will continue to increase hunting opportunities for Albertans. Sunday hunting has been expanded—across the province for

all game-birds and in the north, west and central portions of the province for big game. In the prairie Wildlife Management Units, we have extended the November deer season to a Wednesday-to-Saturday week. There are also increased opportunities for primitive weapons hunters, and a limited, special licence hunt for bison in the Hay-Zama region.

Our new online licensing system—www.albertarelm.com—combined with its companion website—www.mywildalberta.com—bring the administration of our hunting and fishing policies into the internet era. These websites will provide new convenience for hunters and anglers, and facilitate more efficient two-way communications between you and our wildlife biologists. We continue to depend on you, Alberta hunters and anglers, as our most reliable “eyes and ears” when it comes to what’s happening in Alberta’s fields and streams.

The all-party support for Bill 201, the **Alberta Hunting, Fishing and Trapping Heritage Act**, has provided a new and stronger legal foundation for Albertans’ rights to harvest wildlife responsibly. The new **Draft Land Use Framework** recognizes the importance of quality habitat to sustaining healthy populations of wildlife and fish, and recommends new government incentives for habitat stewardship by Alberta’s farmers and ranchers. A new pilot project—the Recreational Access Management Plan (or RAMP)—is being tested in WMUs 108 and 300 to facilitate both increased public access and habitat conservation on private lands.

The future of Alberta’s hunting tradition depends on continued recruitment of new hunters. Please use this year’s expanded hunting opportunities to take your son or daughter, niece or nephew out for a day of hunting. Alberta has great volunteer organizations that provide firearm safety and hunter education courses—all easily accessed through the **My Wild Alberta** website.

All of us at Sustainable Resource Development wish you a great hunting experience this year. Please familiarize yourself with the regulations in this guide, respect the land, get landowner permission where required, and have a safe hunt.

Ted Morton,
Minister

Alberta
Sustainable Resource
Development

HUNTING, FISHING AND TRAPPING HERITAGE ACT

Chapter H-15.5

(Assented to May 15, 2008)

Preamble

WHEREAS hunting, fishing and trapping have played important roles in shaping Alberta’s social, cultural and economic heritage;

WHEREAS hunters, anglers and trappers have made important contributions to the understanding, conservation, restoration and management of Alberta’s fish and wildlife resources; and

WHEREAS the best traditions of hunting, fishing and trapping should be valued by future generations:

THEREFORE HER MAJESTY, by and with the advice and consent of the Legislative Assembly of Alberta, enacts as follows:

Right to hunt and fish

- (1) A person has a right to hunt, fish and trap in accordance with the law.
- (2) The reference to the law in subsection (1) includes the Wildlife Act, the Fisheries Act (Canada), the Migratory Birds Convention Act, 1994 (Canada) and the regulations made under those Acts.

Non-derogation of aboriginal rights

- 2 Nothing in this Act derogates from any aboriginal right to hunt, fish or trap.

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Refer to Page 95

Disclaimers

This pamphlet is neither a legal document nor a complete listing of current Alberta hunting regulations. It is a summary of the regulations and is published annually by Sports Scene Publications Inc. to help hunters understand the rules of hunting. Details of the regulations may be obtained from the nearest Fish and Wildlife Division office (page 16).

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Attention

All Black Bear and Non-resident (Canadian) Non-resident Alien Wolf/Coyote Hunters

If you purchase one of these licences for the spring season, it can be used for the following fall of the same calendar year. This applies for any of the following: Wildlife Certificate, Black Bear Licence (Resident or Non-Resident [Canadian]), Black Bear Special Licence (Non-resident [Canadian] or Non-Resident Alien), Supplemental Black Bear Licence (Resident or Non-Resident [Canadian]) or a Non-Resident (Canadian)/Non-Resident Alien Wolf/Coyote Licence.

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GENERAL

- Beginning this season, hunters can purchase or renew their Wildlife Identification Number (WIN) and purchase their draw applications online using a secure internet program.
- The Alberta Conservation Association has increased the levy portion for all 2008 licences by 20%.
- Sunday hunting opportunity has been expanded. Sunday hunting for game birds is permitted province wide. Sunday hunting for big game is permitted during the open season in all 200, 300, 400 and 500 WMUs and 841, with the exception of WMUs 400 - 414 where big game hunting on Sundays is limited to November 1 - November 30.
- The restriction regarding carrying a weapon on an off-highway vehicle during the morning hours in WMUs 352 and 353 has been removed.
- The requirement to submit wolf skulls has been eliminated. Compulsory registration for wolves in the specified WMUs still remains in effect.

BIG GAME

- An Antlerless Moose Special Licence has been created in WMU 503.
- An Antlered Elk Special Licence has been created in WMU 108 with four separate draw seasons.
- The Cypress Hills Elk Special Licence has been reduced to 5 seasons.
- An Antlerless Elk Special Licence has been created for primitive weapons only in WMU 212.
- The Antlered and Antlerless Elk Special Licence season in WMUs 200, 202, 203, 232, and 234 has been combined into one licence with a November 1 - December 20, 2008 and January 12 - February 21, 2009 season.
- A Resident Supplemental Antlerless Mule Deer Licence has been created. It will be valid in WMUs 200, 234, 236, 256 and 500 and the licence will be issued with two tags. There will be no Antlerless Mule Deer Special Licence in WMUs 200, 234, 236, 256 and 500.
- An Antlered Mule Deer Special Licence has been created in WMU 535 replacing the general mule deer season.
- An Antlerless Mule Deer Special Licence has been created in WMUs 501, 502, and 504.
- The Antlerless White-tailed Deer Special Licence in WMU 162 and 163 has been eliminated. A Supplemental Antlerless White-tailed Deer Licence is now valid in these WMUs.
- Holders of a general white-tailed deer licence may now harvest an antlered or antlerless white-tailed deer, in WMUs 162 and 163.
- A Bison Special Licence has been created in WMUs 536 and 539 for the winter of 2009.
- A primitive weapons season has been created in WMUs 150, 151, 162, 163, 200, 234, 236, 256 and 500. This will allow the use of shotguns, muzzleloaders, cross-bow and bow & arrow during an open season for white-tailed deer and mule deer from October 15-31. Archery hunters under the authority of their White-tailed Deer Licence or Mule Deer licence can hunt during the primitive weapon season.
- The prairie (WMUs 100s and 210) deer rifle seasons have been expanded to include Wednesday, resulting in four-day prairie deer seasons. WMU 16 remains as a November 1 - November 30 season.
- Changes have been made to the Chronic Wasting Disease Program (See Page 69).
- An additional tag for antlerless white-tailed deer has been added to the Strathcona White-tailed Deer Licence.

BIRD GAME

- The use of electronic calls is now permitted for hunting snow geese (refer to page 18 for details).

MAPS

Maps providing information about access, topography and land ownership can be purchased at several locations throughout the province. Contact your local Map Dealer. Map Dealer locations are highlighted on the Map Distribution Centre external website at srd.alberta.ca

Provincial and Federal Maps

Provincial and federal access and topographical maps are available from various private map dealers throughout the province.

County and Other Municipal Maps

Hunters are reminded to check with county and municipal offices for detailed maps showing land ownership status. These maps are available for a nominal fee and are useful for determining land status and ownership, which can help you obtain permission for access.



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WMU DESCRIPTIONS

The WMU boundaries shown on the enclosed map are small-scale approximations of the actual units legally described in the *Wildlife Regulation* (AR 143/97) and subsequent amendments. The map enclosed in this Guide is provided to help you identify the WMU in which you wish to hunt. **It is your responsibility to know in which WMU you are hunting and the seasons, rules and regulations that govern hunting that WMU.** Text descriptions of the WMU boundaries may be either read at your nearest Fish and Wildlife Division office or through the Alberta Queen's Printer website (www.gov.ab.ca/qp) or purchased from The Queen's Printer at the following address:

Edmonton Queen's Printer
10611 - 98 Avenue
Edmonton, AB T5K 2P7
Telephone: (780) 427-4952

NOTE: The Queen's Printer does not sell maps.

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Licence #

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ALL PROCEEDS GO TOWARDS PURCHASING CRITICAL WILDLIFE HABITAT IN ALBERTA. TICKETS ARE \$10.00 EACH. DRAW DATE APRIL 25, 2009 AT THE POLISH HALL, EDMONTON. PRIZE MUST BE ACCEPTED AS AWARDED. MUST BE 18 YEARS OF AGE (RESTRICTIONS APPLY) TICKETS WILL BE SOLD IN ALBERTA ONLY.

Alberta Fish and Game Association 6924 - 104 Street, Edmonton, Alberta T6H 2L7
Phone: (780) 437-2342 Fax: (780) 438-6872 E-mail: office@afga.org Web site: www.afga.org

BACKGROUND

What is albertarelm.com?

Albertarelm.com is a website built specifically for anglers and hunters and is funded in part by your licence fees. By registering on this site, hunters and anglers can buy or renew their Wildlife Identification Number card (WIN), Sportfishing licences and apply for their draws online.

Hunters and anglers can view their licence purchases for the past five years including their draw application history, draw results and priorities; update their addresses and telephone numbers and receive directed information.

What is a WIN

A WIN is your unique Wildlife Identification Number which is required to purchase all your fishing and hunting licences (see page 20).

NEW FOR 2008

Prior to 2008, fishing and hunting licences were only available at private sector licence issuers located throughout the province. There are more than 450+ private sector licence issuers with licences available during business hours.

In 2008 Sustainable Resource Development in conjunction with IBM has expanded your options with the introduction of online licence sales. You can now visit albertarelm.com and purchase or renew your WIN, purchase your Sportfishing Licence and apply for the hunting draws.

ONLINE PURCHASES

What do I need to purchase an online licence?

You will need a valid credit card, an email address, access to a computer with an internet connection and a printer to print your licences. If you do not have an email address, free addresses are available through internet service providers or free email services such as hotmail and Gmail.

Credit cards accepted are Visa, MasterCard and American Express.

What does it cost to buy an online licence?

Your online licence will cost the same as a licence purchased at your local licence issuer. The cost varies according to the type of licence you buy. There are no added service fees.

What are the technical requirements for my computer for online purchases?

Your internet browser should use Microsoft Internet Explorer Version 6.0 newer or Firefox Version 2. To print your licence, your operating system should be Adobe Acrobat Reader Version 7 or later. Adobe Acrobat is available as a free download once you are connected to the internet.

Is there someone I can call if I have problems when I try to purchase a licence?

You can call the albertarelm Help Desk (1-888-944-5494) for assistance. The hours of operation are:

Monday-Wednesday	9:00 AM-6:00 PM
Thursday, Friday	9:00 AM-9:00 PM
Saturday	9:00 AM-5:00 PM
Sunday	10:00 AM-3:00 PM

You can also send e-mail inquiries to drawhunt@ca.ibm.com

How do I know my information is secure?

Your internet browser will indicate that you are operating on a secure server. You will know this as the URL of the website will begin with an "https" rather than "http" and there will be a closed padlock on the status bar.

Albertarelm is protected using a secure internet service known as Verisign. The information you enter is transmitted using a Secure Socket Layer (SSL) of communications.

Your credit card information is encrypted for added security. Your credit card number will not be stored in our database.

HOW TO ACCESS THE ONLINE SYSTEM

AlbertaRELM

Already registered?
Use below if you have a WIN & have previously used this site.

WIN card:
Password:

Not registered
Use below if you have a WIN & have not used this site.

WIN card:

Online Licensing Now Available

On this secure website, you can apply for a WIN, renew your WIN, replace your WIN card and buy an Alberta Sportfishing licence online.

Hunting Draw applications can be made online from June 3 to 26, 2008.

Also, you can visit this website to:

- view your draw applications, draw results, draw priorities and licences for the current and last five seasons
- get your test results for your head submissions for Chronic Wasting Disease
- reprint your licences.

If you have any questions or problems call the RELM Help Desk at 1-888-944-5494

For more information on fishing and hunting in Alberta, visit the Sustainable Resource Development website

2008 Key Dates

April 22	Special Walleye draw results available
April 29	Online licensing commences for WIN cards and sportfishing licences (except for Special Walleye licences)
May 2-26	Under-subscribed licences available for Special Walleye Licences (1-900-451-3723 only)
June 3-26	Hunting draw applications available (apply 3 ways: online, licence issuer or 1-900-451-3723)
July 11	Hunting draw results available
August 1	Hunting licences go on sale

Already registered?

Enter your WIN and the password you selected when registered the first time. Forgot your password? Click this button to re-register.

Need to Register your WIN

Register your WIN the first time you access your personal information.

1. Enter your WIN (10 digits)
2. Enter the identification number you provided when you applied for your WIN. This would be your driver's licence number, health care number or passport number. This is a security measure to ensure only you can access your personal information.
3. Your WIN and your identification number are used to verify your identity. This will prevent anyone else from logging in and accessing your personal information. Enter a password (of your choice) and your email address. If you have any problems, contact the RELM Help Desk at 1-888-944-5494.

Apply for your WIN Online!

If you do not have a WIN, you can apply online. Immediately after purchasing your WIN you will be able to purchase your draw application and/or sportfishing licence.

DEFINITIONS

The following definitions will help you understand this Guide:

Antlered – a white-tailed deer, mule deer, moose or elk having an antler exceeding 10.2 cm (4 in.) in length.

Antlerless – a white-tailed deer, mule deer, moose or elk that is not “antlered” (as defined above).

Bait – any substance that consists of a food attractant, including any mineral and any representation of a food attractant.

Big Game Designated Guide – a person designated by the Alberta Professional Outfitters Society to commercially guide big game hunters in Alberta. A Designated Guide may guide not more than two Non-resident (Canadian) and non-resident alien big game hunters at a time in any part of Alberta, provided that each Non-resident (Canadian) or Non-resident alien has contracted the hunt through an Outfitter-guide. The two-hunter limit does not include Resident hunters.

Big Game Outfitter-guide – a person who is the holder of a valid Outfitter-guide Permit, and who provides outfitting and guiding services to big game hunters in Alberta.

- Class S Outfitter-guide – an Outfitter-guide who holds Non-resident (Canadian)/Non-resident Alien allocations for Trophy Sheep Special Licences. A Class S Outfitter-guide may also hold allocations for other big game special licences.
- Class T Outfitter-guide – an Outfitter-guide who holds allocations valid for Non-resident (Canadian) and Non-resident Alien big game special licences other than those for trophy sheep.

Bird Game Designated Guide – a person designated by the Alberta Professional Outfitters Society to commercially guide game bird hunters in Alberta.

Bird Game Outfitter-guide – a person who is the holder of a valid Bird Game Outfitter-guide Permit issued by the Alberta Professional Outfitters Society, and who provides outfitting and guiding services to non-resident and non-resident alien game bird hunters in Alberta.

Green Area – forest lands not available for agricultural development other than grazing. In general, the Green Area is public land outside the parkland and prairie regions, or roughly in the northern half of the province and within a strip running along the Rocky Mountains and foothills.

Hunter Host – an adult resident who is the holder of a valid Hunter Host Licence. To

obtain this licence, the adult must hold a valid WIN and be eligible to hold recreational hunting licences. A Hunter Host **may not provide services for gain or reward, or accept a fee for services, directly or indirectly.**

The licence authorizes the holder (**usually a relative or friend of the hunters to be hosted**) to host a maximum of two non-residents (Canadian) or non-resident aliens* named on the host's licence to hunt wolf, coyote and big game throughout the province. * Non-resident alien hunters are referred to Outfitting and Guiding Requirements (page 23) for additional conditions and restrictions.

Non-resident (Canadian) – a person who is not a Resident (see below), but who makes his or her home and is ordinarily present in Canada, and who has lived in Canada for the 12-month period immediately preceding the relevant date.

Non-resident Alien – a person who is neither a Resident (see below) nor a Non-resident (see above).

OHV (Off-Highway Vehicle) – any motorized vehicle designed for cross-country travel on land, water, snow, ice, marsh or swamp land, or on other natural terrain.

[Exceptions: motor boats, as well as four-wheel-drive vehicles and motorcycles registered in accordance with the *Traffic Safety Act*.] Among OHVs, include the following kinds of vehicles when they are designed for cross-country travel as described above:

- four-wheel drive or low pressure tire vehicles,
- motorcycles and related two-wheel vehicles,
- amphibious machines,
- all-terrain vehicles,
- miniature motor vehicles,
- snow vehicles,
- minibikes, or
- any other means of transportation that is propelled by any power other than muscular power or wind.

Partner Licence – a licence issued to an eligible hunter that allows him or her to hunt a specific species in a specified WMU and season under the direct authority of a Special Licence held by another hunter successful in a draw.

Resident – a person who either

- has his or her only or primary residence in Alberta and
 - 1) is a Canadian citizen or is admitted to permanent residence in Canada, or
 - 2) has lived in Canada for the 12-month period immediately preceding the relevant date; or
- is on full-time service with the Armed Forces of Canada and would, if an election were held under the *Elections Act* (Canada), be eligible to vote in Alberta under that Act.

Special Licence – a licence obtained through a draw process, or for Non-resident and Non-resident Alien hunters, through an Outfitter-guide. It permits hunting of a specific type or class of game only in specific areas during a specified season (page 22).

Weapon – a firearm or any other device that propels a projectile by means of an explosion, spring, air, gas, string, wire or elastic material or any combination of those things.

White Geese – snow and Ross' geese.

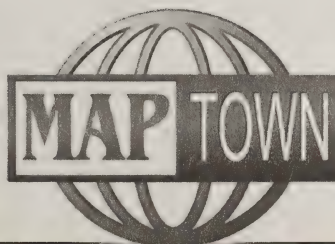
WMU – Wildlife Management Unit, a geographical area prescribed in legislation.

WIN – Wildlife Identification Number, a permanent registration number issued to each hunter and angler.

Month Abbreviations

The following defines the month abbreviations used in this guide:

A – August S – September O – October
N – November D – December
J – January F – February M – March
Ap – April Ma – May Ju – June



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FURTHER INQUIRIES

The following sources are available for further information about these regulations or other matters concerning fish or wildlife management:

Information Centre

Edmonton 780-944-0313
E-mail: srd.infocent@gov.ab.ca

Websites — srd.alberta.ca/fishwildlife/ or go to
albertaregulations.ca or www.mywildalberta.com

Fish and Wildlife Division Head Office Mailing Address

Fish and Wildlife Division
Great West Life Building
9920 – 108 Street, Edmonton, Alberta T5K 2M4



Fish and Wildlife Division Local Office Telephone Numbers

For toll-free access within Alberta to most Alberta Government offices, call 310-0000.

Northwest Region

Fairview 780-835-2737
Fort Vermilion (8:15 – noon) 780-927-4488
*Grande Prairie 780-538-5265
*High Level (8:15 – noon) 780-926-2238
High Prairie 780-523-6521
Manning (8:45 – 12:30) 780-836-3065
*Peace River 780-624-6405
Red Earth (11:45 – 3:30 Mon. to
Thurs., 8:15 – noon, Fri.) 780-649-3853
*Slave Lake 780-849-7123
Spirit River 780-864-4101
Valleyview 780-524-3605

Northeast Region

Athabasca 780-675-2419
Bonnyville (8:15 – noon) 780-826-3142
Cold Lake 780-594-7876
Edmonton 780-427-3574
*Fort McMurray 780-743-7200
*Lac La Biche 780-623-5247
St. Paul 780-645-6313
Smoky Lake (8:15 – noon) 780-656-3556

Southwest Region

Barrhead 780-674-8236
Blairmore 403-562-3289
Canmore 403-678-2373
Claresholm 403-625-1450
Cochrane 403-932-2388
Drayton Valley 780-542-6616
*Edson 780-723-8244
Evansburg 780-727-3635
Fox Creek 780-622-3421
Ghost 403-673-3663
Grande Cache 780-827-3356
High River (8:15 – 4:30, Mon. &
Fri.; 8:15 – noon, Tues. to
Thu) 403-652-8330

Hinton 780-865-8264
Nordegg 403-721-3965
Pincher Creek 403-627-1116
*Rocky Mountain House 403-845-8230
Stony Plain (Spruce Grove) 780-960-8190
Sundre 403-638-3805
Swan Hills 780-333-2229
*Whitecourt 780-778-7112

Southeast Region

Brooks 403-362-1232
*Calgary 403-297-6423
Camrose (8:15 – noon) 780-679-1225
Cardston 403-653-5158
Coronation (Tue. Wed. every
other Thu.) 403-578-3223
Drumheller 403-823-1670
Foremost (8:15 – noon) 403-867-3826
Hanna (Tue. Wed. every
other Thu.) 403-854-5540
Lethbridge 403-381-5266
Lloydminster (9:00 – 3:00 Mon. to
Wed.) 780-871-6495
Medicine Hat 403-529-3680
Olds (8:15 – noon) 403-556-4215
Oyen (Tue. Wed. every
other Thu.) 403-664-3614
Ponoka (8:15 – noon) 403-783-7093
Provost (1:00 – 4:30, Tue.;
8:30 – 4:30, Wed. Thu.) 780-753-2433
*Red Deer 403-340-5142
Stettler (8:15 – noon) 403-742-7510
Strathmore 403-934-3422
Vegreville (8:15 – 4:30 Tue.
Wed.; 8:15 – noon, Thurs.) 780-632-5410
Vermilion 780-853-8137
Vulcan 403-485-6971
Wetaskiwin 780-361-1250

*Area Office

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Prohibitions

Note: *Convictions for certain offences will result in the suspension of all recreational hunting licences for a period of 1 to 3 years, and may result in a suspension for as long as 5 or more years. This is in addition to the assessment of a fine, an order and/or imprisonment.*

Loaded Firearms — A firearm in or on a vehicle, aircraft or boat is considered loaded if it has live ammunition in the breech, chamber or magazine, unless cartridges are in a magazine that is not attached to the firearm. See Item 7 below for further information.

General

It is unlawful to

1. carry or use another person's licence or tag or allow another person to use your licence or tag.
2. harass, injure or kill any wildlife with a vehicle, aircraft or boat.
3. hunt any wildlife with or from an aircraft, or communicate, for the purpose of hunting, the signs or whereabouts of wildlife seen during a flight on an aircraft.
4. transport dead wildlife taken by others without an accompanying bill of lading (see page 71) signed by the licence or permit holder and providing the following details:
 - the kind and number of the licence under which the wildlife was killed or possessed,
 - a description of the wildlife,
 - the points of origin and destination, and
 - the date on which the wildlife is to be transported.
5. set out, use or employ any of the following items for the purpose of **hunting any wildlife**:
 - an arrow equipped with an explosive head,
 - a firearm that is capable of firing more than one bullet during one pressure of the trigger or a firearm that can be altered to operate as such,
 - a light,
 - a shotgun of a gauge greater than 10,
 - a device designed to deaden the sound of the report of a firearm,
 - recorded wildlife calls or sounds, or an electrically operated calling device, except when hunting snow geese with the use of calls or sounds that mimic snow geese and the hunting does not occur with the use of decoys that mimic migratory game birds other than snow geese.
 - a pistol or revolver,
 - live wildlife,
 - a swivel set or spring gun, or
 - a poisonous substance or an immobilizing drug.
6. allow the edible meat of any game bird or big game animal, except cougar or bear, to be wasted, destroyed, spoiled or abandoned.
7. have a loaded firearm (live ammunition in breech, chamber or magazine) in or on, or discharge a **weapon** from
 - a boat unless the boat is propelled by muscular power or is at anchor and the person is hunting, or
 - any kind of aircraft or vehicle whether it is moving or stationary.

Note: Ammunition may be carried in a magazine that is not attached to the firearm. Refer to page 20 for contact information regarding federal firearms legislation.
8. discharge a **weapon** within 183 m (200 yards) or cause a projectile from a **weapon** to pass within 183 m (200 yards) of any occupied building. Owners, occupants, or persons authorized by the owner or occupant are exempted, subject to local bylaws.

9. discharge a firearm from or cause a projectile from a firearm to pass along or across:
 - a) a provincial highway,
 - b) a road that is paved, oiled, graded or regularly maintained, unless
 - the road is held under any active disposition under the *Public Lands Act* or under an order under the *Surface Rights Act*, or
 - the person is hunting game birds with a shotgun under the authority of a licence.
10. hunt any wildlife while impaired by alcohol or drugs.
11. hunt any wildlife or **discharge a firearm** between one-half hour after sunset and one-half hour before sunrise. (See sunrise/sunset table on page 52).
12. alter, destroy or remove any sign or notice that has been posted under the authority of the *Wildlife Act*, *Petty Trespass Act* or the *Migratory Birds Regulations*.
13. hunt any wildlife or discharge any firearm on or over occupied land or enter on to such land for the purpose of doing so without the consent of the owner or occupant of the land (page 31).
NOTE: There is an additional requirement affecting access for guided hunts (page 33).
14. possess a firearm of a calibre larger than .22 in a helicopter over WMUs 400-446.
15. hunt with a firearm if you are under 18 years of age and not accompanied by a parent, legal guardian or by a person 18 years of age or older who has the written permission of the parent or legal guardian. See page 20 for Canadian Firearms Centre contact information.
16. disturb traps, sets or trapping cabins.

Big Game

It is unlawful to

1. set out, use or employ any of the following items for the purpose of **hunting big game**:
 - ammunition of less than .23 calibre,
 - ammunition that contains non-expanding bullets,
 - an auto-loading firearm that has the capacity to hold more than cartridges in the magazine,
 - a shotgun having a gauge of .410 or less,
 - a shotgun in a bird sanctuary,
 - bait, except as permitted for the hunting of black bears (page 4)
 - an arrow other than an authorized arrow (page 39),

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albertarelm.com

Sustainable Resource Development wants to use e-mail to communicate better with Alberta's hunters and anglers. Your information will be held in a secure and confidential manner.

- a bow other than an authorized bow (page 39),
- a muzzle-loading firearm of less than .44 calibre,
- a rifle or shotgun in WMUs 212, 248 or 410 (persons hunting under the authority of a Strathcona White-tailed Deer Licence, a Foothills Deer Licence, or an Antlerless Moose Special Licence in Strathcona County may hunt with a bow and arrow, cross-bow, muzzleloader or shotgun),
- a trap,
- a cross-bow and arrow that is not authorized (see page 60).

discharge a **weapon** at a big game animal while it is swimming.

discharge an arrow from a bow at big game, from, along or across a highway or road specified in Item 9 on page 18.

be accompanied by a dog while hunting big game or allow a dog to pursue big game except when hunting cougar under the authority of a Cougar Licence.

possess the carcass of a male elk, male antelope or male non-trophy sheep unless the complete skull plate, with horns or antlers intact, is also retained with the carcass until it is delivered to

- the usual residence of the person who killed it, and the animal is butchered, cut and packaged for consumption, or
- a premises in respect of which there is a Food Establishment Permit issued under the *Public Health Act* or a Licence for the Operation of an Abattoir issued under the *Meat Inspection Act*.

possess the carcass of a calf moose taken under authority of a Calf Moose Special Licence unless its head is also retained with the carcass until it is delivered to

- the usual residence of the person who killed it, and the animal is butchered, cut and packaged for consumption, or
- a premises in respect of which there is a Food Establishment Permit issued under the *Public Health Act* or a Licence for the Operation of an Abattoir issued under the *Meat Inspection Act*.

allow the skin of any bear or cougar to be wasted, destroyed, spoiled or abandoned. See exception on page 33.

remove the distinctive evidence of sex and species from the carcass of any big game until the carcass is delivered to

- the usual residence of the person who killed it, and the animal is butchered, cut and packaged for consumption, or
- a premises in respect of which there is a Food Establishment Permit issued under the *Public Health Act* or a Licence for the Operation of an Abattoir issued under the *Meat Inspection Act*.

In the case of grizzly bear and cougar, the evidence of sex must remain attached and be retained until the animal has been registered (page 39).

remove the tag from the carcass of a big game animal until authorized (as outlined on page 39).

hunt:

- a black bear under the age of one year,
- a female black bear accompanied by a cub under the age of one year,
- a female cougar accompanied by a kitten with spotted fur, or
- a cougar with spotted fur.

transport big game hunters, except those requiring medical aid, or big game by helicopter over WMUs 400-446.

land or take off in a fixed-wing aircraft that is carrying big game, big game hunters or firearms of a calibre larger than .22 at or from any location in WMUs 400-446 except those locations where aircraft routinely land and take off.

hunt big game within 6 hours of having disembarked from an aircraft, except for a jet or turbo-propelled aircraft.

14. hunt big game on Sundays:

- in WMUs 102 – 166,
- in WMUs 400 – 414, except during November,
- in WMU 210 during the deer seasons identified as Wednesday to Saturday only seasons on pages 45 and 46 of this guide.
- in WMUs 624, 728, 730 and 936.

Game Bird

It is unlawful to

1. hunt game birds during an open season for male pheasants within designated pheasant release sites after 2:00 p.m., except Saturdays.

2. possess, before it has been transported to the usual residence of the person who killed it or is prepared for immediate cooking, a game bird which does not bear evidence of sex and species. Evidence of sex and species consists of one completely feathered wing attached to the carcass of the game bird, except for Merriam's turkey for which evidence of sex and species consists of the complete head and beard attached to the carcass (see page 60 for tagging instructions for Merriam's turkey).

3. hunt a migratory game bird using:

- a firearm loaded with a single bullet
- lead shot
- a cross-bow

4. hunt any game bird using:

- a shotgun in which the magazine and chamber combined will hold more than three rounds of ammunition,
- a trap, or
- bait.

Note: see item 12 (below) for additional restrictions for hunting Merriam's turkey.

5. have more than one shotgun, for personal use, at any time while hunting migratory game birds unless each shotgun, in excess of one, is unloaded and disassembled or unloaded and cased.

6. hunt game birds in WMU 410 with other than a bow and arrow or falconry bird.

7. hunt game birds in WMU 212 or 248 with other than a bow and arrow, a cross-bow, shotgun or falconry bird.

8. exceed the daily or possession limit for any game bird (see game bird bag limits on page 62).

9. hunt game birds within 400 m (1/4 mi.) of a baited lure area operated under the Crop Damage Control Program.

10. transport migratory game birds belonging to others unless the carcasses are affixed with a tag showing:

- the signature, name and address of the owner,
- the licence number under which the bird was taken, and
- the date the birds were taken.

11. fail to make every effort possible to immediately retrieve a migratory game bird that a person has killed or wounded. A hunter must have adequate means to retrieve any migratory bird that he or she may kill, cripple or injure.

12. hunt Merriam's turkey using:

- a weapon other than a shotgun, cross-bow or a bow and arrow,
- a shotgun with a bore diameter smaller than 20 gauge, or
- shot size smaller than No. 6 shot or larger than No. 2 shot.

13. remove the tag from a Merriam's turkey until authorized (page 60).

FEDERAL FIREARMS LEGISLATION

All hunters should be aware of federal laws surrounding the acquisition, possession, transportation and use of weapons and ammunition. For further information contact your local police service or the Canadian Firearms Centre at 1-800-731-4000 or visit the Centre's website at <http://www.cfc.gc.ca/>.

LICENSING

Licence System

IBM manages the sale of all recreational hunting and fishing licences in Alberta. Licences are sold through private licence issuers (e.g., sporting goods stores, convenience stores and gas stations) in communities throughout Alberta. Licences are not sold at Fish and Wildlife Division offices.

The automated system integrates all recreational licensing services, providing better service to hunters, anglers and licence issuers. The system provides the Fish and Wildlife Division with important, up-to-date information about the hunters and anglers in the province.

To locate a licence issuer in your area of Alberta, contact the RELM (Recreational Licensing Management) Call Centre, toll-free in North America, at 1-888-944-5494, or go to the Hunting in Alberta website (srd.alberta.ca).

Wildlife Identification Number (WIN)

Hunters and anglers in Alberta must possess a 10-digit Wildlife Identification Number (WIN) before applying for or purchasing any licence or wildlife certificate. The WIN can be purchased for \$8.00 and is valid for five years. Once your WIN expires you can renew it at any licence issuer or online at albertarelm.com for \$8.00 for another five years.

If you are purchasing a WIN for the first time you can purchase one online at albertarelm.com or at a licence issuer. The licence issuer gives you a paper receipt (which includes your new number) allowing you to purchase licences immediately. Your plastic card will be mailed to you within a few weeks.

If you have any questions about the WIN or the licensing system, please contact the RELM Call Centre, toll-free in North America, at 1-888-944-5494.

What is required to be eligible to hunt in Alberta?

Hunters in Alberta should be aware of federal regulations pertaining to possession and use of firearms (page 20), and provincial regulations

Please bring your WIN card!

Please bring your card when you purchase licences. The plastic WIN card allows the licence issuer to provide you with faster, more efficient service.

Change of Address

All hunters should ensure their address and telephone number on their licence is correct. To update your address, go online at albertarelm.com or call (toll-free in North America) 1-888-944-5494, or fill out a WIN Application form at your local licence issuer.

pertaining to licensing of hunters. There are regulations that pertain to first-time hunters, youths, residents, non-residents and non-resident alien

All hunters must have a Wildlife Identification Number (WIN) as a prerequisite to applying for, or purchasing any hunting licence but some additional requirements must be met for the WIN-holder to be eligible to purchase hunting licences.

A person must possess a valid Wildlife Certificate and the applicable hunting licence in order to hunt big game or game birds. The hunter must carry the licence and applicable tag(s) on his or her person while hunting. A person applying for a draw is not required to possess a Wildlife Certificate but must purchase one before purchasing any hunting licence.

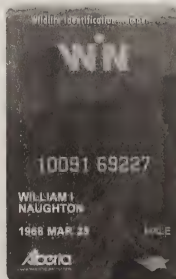
Licensing requirements for first-time hunters

A first-time hunter is a hunter who 1) has not previously held a hunting licence in Alberta or elsewhere, or 2) has not passed a hunter competency test in Alberta or elsewhere, or 3) has not successfully completed a hunter education course in Alberta or elsewhere.

www.albertarelm.com

WiN Card Website

- Buy and renew your WiN online
- Buy your fishing licence online
- View your draw applications, priorities and results



- Development is underway to add hunting licence products
- Check albertarelm.com for updates
- Remember to bring your WiN card when you are at a licence issuer

For Information Call

1-888-944-5494

Email: drawhunt@ca.ibm.com

Services provided by



Non-resident and non-resident alien hunters (12 years of age or older) are exempt from the first-time hunter eligibility requirement if they are accompanied by a Hunter Host or a Designated Guide while hunting in Alberta.

Adult first-time hunters who have not previously held a hunting licence in Alberta or elsewhere, have an option of completing the Alberta Conservation and Hunter Education course, or passing the Alberta Hunter Competency exam.

Youth first-time hunters (12 to 17 years of age) have two options, depending on age. First-time hunters **under 14 years of age** must complete the Alberta Conservation and Hunter Education course. Those **14 to 17 years of age** have the option of completing the Alberta Conservation and Hunter Education course or successfully completing the Alberta Hunter Competency exam. A youth must be **at least 12 years old** to hunt under the authority of any hunting licence in Alberta. All hunters **under the age of 16 years** must have written permission from a parent or guardian to purchase hunting licences. Hunters who are **11 years old** may apply in the draws for licences if they meet the above criteria but they must be 12 years old anytime before or during the open season for that draw. They may not hunt until they are **12 years old**. **Note: As of 2007, hunters who are 12 or 13 years of age are no longer restricted to hunting big game with only a bow and arrow.** To hunt with a firearm, hunters **under 18 years of age** must be accompanied by a parent, a legal guardian or by a person 18 years of age or older who has the written permission of the parent or legal guardian.

If you are interested in taking the Alberta Conservation and Hunter Education course, call the Alberta Hunter Education Instructors' Association toll-free in Alberta at 1-866-852-4342, Edmonton 80-466-6682, or Calgary 403-252-8474.

continued on page 22

Alberta Hunter Education Instructors' Association



Presenting Conservation and Hunter Education to Albertans



Programs available:

- Alberta Conservation & Hunter Education
- Alberta Fishing Education
- Outdoor Camp Programs
- 1st Time Hunter Certification & Programs
- Canadian Firearms Safety Courses & Challenges
- Outdoor Woman's Seminars
- Outdoor Youth Seminars
- Wildlife Seminars
- Fishing Seminars

For more information on any of our programs contact us at:

Calgary
911 Sylvester Cr. SW
Calgary, AB T2W 0R8
Phone: (403) 252-8474
Fax: (403) 252-3770
Email: info@aheia.com
Toll Free: 1-866-852-4342

Edmonton
#88, 4003 - 98 Street
Edmonton, AB T6E 6M8
Phone: (780) 466-6682
Fax: (780) 431-2871
Email: edmontoninfo@aheia.com
Toll Free: 1-866-252-4342

Web Site: www.aheia.com

Accessing Agricultural Leased Land or Grazing Reserves

What you need to know

Before entering leased land, you must contact the leaseholder.

Leaseholder contact information is available on Alberta Sustainable Resource Development's website www.srd.alberta.ca/lands/ or by calling 1-866-279-0023.

Leaseholders must allow foot access. Access may be denied if:

- you are not on foot
- livestock are present in a fenced pasture
- a crop has not yet been harvested
- a fire ban is in effect
- you wish to hunt in an area near livestock
- you wish to camp

Access to Provincial Grazing Reserves

The primary purpose of provincial grazing reserves is to provide summer livestock grazing. Users are welcome on grazing reserves but are reminded that their use may be restricted during certain times of the year. For information about seasonal or other restrictions on provincial grazing reserves, contact the appropriate regional grazing office. For more information visit www.srd.alberta.ca/lands/

- When visiting grazing reserves please note:
- all motorized vehicles are required to stay on roads or trails
- gates need to be left as they are found
- organized recreational groups will require a letter of authority from the regional grazing reserve office to use the grazing reserves
- camping is prohibited unless authorized by the regional grazing reserve office.

When on agricultural public land, please be courteous and remember to:

- pack out all litter
- park vehicles so they do not block access to the land
- ask permission before lighting a fire
- leave gates as you find them — open or closed
- use care not to damage the land or any property

With penalties ranging from **\$150-\$500**, failing to follow these guidelines can be costly.

Alberta

Resident Youth Hunting Licences

Subject to the age limitations and conditions above, a resident 12 to 17 years of age may purchase a Resident Youth Wildlife Certificate, including a Game Bird Licence, for \$8.30. The holder of a valid Resident Youth Wildlife Certificate who has not yet attained the age of 18 years may also purchase a Youth White-tailed Deer Licence and a Youth Mule Deer Licence, each for \$8.25. **These licences are valid during the seasons that do not require one of the Special Licences obtained through a draw.** This person may also purchase an Antlerless Mule Deer Special Licence (available through a draw, see Draws for Special Licences, below) for \$8.00. Partner Licences are also available to resident youths if designated by the holder of any special licence. See this page.

Where Your Money Goes

A portion of the price of each **hunting licence** is a levy established by the Alberta Conservation Association to help finance wildlife rehabilitation programs, the enhancement of other wildlife management programs and the Report A Poacher Program. Another portion goes to General Revenue and the remainder is a transaction fee that goes to IBM to finance the administration of the licensing system. This system collects valuable information about the use of our wildlife resource. The government uses this data for setting season dates, licence quotas and other regulations. For complete information on fee break down, contact Licensing, Revenue and Resource Data Management at (780) 427-5185.

Mobility-impaired Hunters

Eligible individuals may obtain a special permit or licence relating to off-highway vehicle (OHV) use, discharging a weapon from an OHV and bow and arrow equipment. Contact a Fish and Wildlife Division office (page 16) for more information.

Mandatory Hunter Testing

A person whose right to hold a recreational hunting licence has been suspended in Alberta as a result of a conviction is required to pass a hunter-competency test before obtaining another recreational hunting licence. This test, which differs from the test given to first-time hunters, must be taken after the beginning of the suspension period. Mandatory hunter testing is intended to increase outdoor safety, awareness, skills and efficiency and to develop responsible attitudes in the field. Dates and times for testing are available at Fish and Wildlife Division offices (page 16).

Draws for Special Licences

When demand for hunting opportunities becomes excessive, season length and bag limits are often insufficient to conserve a game resource or to ensure a quality hunting experience. In such cases, the Fish and Wildlife Division conducts lotteries or draws among eligible applicants for a limited number of special licences. Special licences allow successful applicants to hunt a specific type of game (e.g., antlerless elk) in defined areas during a specified season.

Only residents and, to a lesser extent, non-residents (Canadian) are eligible to apply in these draws. A non-refundable \$3.65 (plus GST) levy is charged for each application or group of applicants (maximum of four) for the same draw. This levy goes to the Alberta Conservation Association for programs.

Although draws are used for specific wildlife management purposes (e.g., the goal in antlered mule deer draw areas is to develop a more balanced age structure in the herd by controlling the kill of bucks), other benefits include improved hunter success, increased opportunity to harvest a trophy animal, a more pleasant hunting experience with lower hunter densities, reduced disturbance of landowners, and a better distribution of the harvest.

Draw Application Deadline Dates — Hunters interested in special licence hunts for fall 2008 must have applied by June 26. Refer to the *2008 Alberta Hunting Draws* booklet for more information on this draw.

Hunters interested in the draw seasons for 2009 should obtain the *2009 Alberta Hunting Draws* booklet and apply during the month of June 2009. The booklet is mailed to draw applicants from the previous two years. For hunters who do not receive a copy in the mail, copies are available at licence issuers and your local Fish and Wildlife Division office.

Draw Results — Written notification of your draw results are sent in the mail. Beginning July 11, you may call **1-900-451-DRAW** (\$0.75 for each minute) to determine your success in the draws. All you need is a touch-tone telephone and your WIN, or you can view online at albertarelm.com. Results for antelope and goat draws are available August 11.

For information on the Draws for Special Licences, call 1-877-289-0999 toll-free.

Landowner Special Licence

A person who qualifies may be eligible to obtain a special licence after having been unsuccessful in some draws. Availability of Landowner Special Licences may be limited or not available at all for some species certain WMUs. Those available will be issued to eligible persons on a first-come, first-served basis. For details on eligibility and the application process, please consult the *2008 Alberta Hunting Draws* booklet.

Partner Licence

The following Partner Licences are available:

1. A resident holder of an **Antlerless Moose** Special Licence has the option of designating one eligible resident hunter (adult or youth) to be a partner on the Special Licence, thereby allowing the designated hunter to obtain a Special Antlerless Moose Partner Licence.
2. A resident holder of an **Antlered Moose** Special Licence has the option of designating one eligible hunter, either a resident (adult or youth) or a non-resident (Canadian) (adult or youth), to be a partner on the Special Licence, thereby allowing the designated hunter to obtain a Special Antlered Moose Partner Licence. To qualify for a Partner Licence in a particular WMU, the non-resident (Canadian) must have been eligible to apply for the Special Licence in that WMU. A non-resident (Canadian) holder of an Antlered Moose Special Licence obtained through the draw process has the option of designating one eligible resident (adult or youth) hunter to be a partner on the Special Licence, thereby allowing the designated hunter to obtain a Special Antlered Moose Partner Licence.
3. Resident hunters successful in drawing a Special Licence in any of the other Draws may designate one eligible resident youth (12 to 17 years of age) to be a partner on their Special Licence.

Rules for all Partners — A designated partner does not need any priority to qualify for a partner licence, does not need to have applied on the draw and the purchase of the partner licence will not affect any existing priority of the partner. The intended partner must be eligible to hold a hunting licence. Refer to pages 24-27 regarding licence combinations and restrictions. The primary licensee may designate a partner at any time until the end of the season for which the Special Licence is valid. The designated partner hunts under the authority of the special licence and must be in direct


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ommunication (not including the use of any electronic devices) with the primary special licence holder while hunting to ensure that both stop hunting once the tag(s) are filled. The two hunters hunt as one. The primary licensee must carry the tag(s) issued with the special licence and must tag the animal as soon as there is a kill. The primary licensee may hunt without the partner, but not vice versa.

Designate a Partner – The Partner Licence is available at any licence issuer. The intended partner must provide the licence issuer with the number of the Special Licence held by the primary hunter along with his or her own WIN. The Special Licence number authorizes the licensing system to issue a partner licence that is linked to the Special Licence. The intended partner may then purchase a Wildlife Certificate and the appropriate Partner Licence. If the intended partner is a non-resident, s/he must be accompanied by a licensed Hunter Host while hunting. The Partner Licence is valid for the same WMU and season as the Special Licence. No tag is issued with the Partner Licence.

Outfitting and Guiding Requirements for Non-residents (Canadian) and Non-resident Aliens

see Definitions on page 15).

There is no requirement for non-resident (Canadian) and non-resident alien game bird hunters to contract their **game bird** hunts through a Bird Game Outfitter-guide. However, those who do choose to hire an outfitter-guide for such a hunt must do so through the holder of a valid Bird Game Outfitter-guide Permit.

In this section, the term "accompany" or "accompanied" means that the persons involved are close enough to each other to easily facilitate verbal communications without the need for electronic devices. **It is acceptable, however, for the hunter to be placed in a stand location by the guide hunter host, if they remain at that same location to be picked up after the same day.**

Non-resident (Canadian) and Non-resident Alien hunters of **big game, wolf and coyote must be accompanied by a licensed guide or a Hunter Host**. Each of these hunters has two options:

he or she may contract the holder of a valid Big Game Outfitter-guide Permit, be guided by a Big Game Designated Guide, and hunt under the authority of a licence allocated to an outfitter-guide (for information on outfitter-guides, contact the Alberta Professional Outfitters Society at apos.ab.ca), **OR** he or she may be hosted by a Hunter Host (see below) – usually a relative or friend – and hunt according to the following restrictions and conditions:

- Non-resident Aliens may hunt with any Hunter Host only if they have not done so in the previous two (2) fiscal years (April 1 - March 31).
- Non-residents (Canadian) and Non-resident Aliens are limited to certain licences as indicated in the Licence Availability sections on pages 26 to 27.
- Non-resident Aliens hosted by Hunter Hosts may hunt big game only during seasons that do not require one of the special licences, obtained through a draw, indicated by a ■ in the season tables on pages 44 to 58 or listed under Additional Special Licence Draw Hunts on page 59.
- A Non-resident Alien and his or her intended Hunter Host must apply at a Fish and Wildlife Division office for their licences and make a statutory declaration that he or she understands the terms and conditions of the licences (see Hunter Host Licence on this page).
- A Non-resident Alien must not hunt bighorn sheep, cougar or trophy antelope while accompanied by a Hunter Host.
- **Further Restrictions for Non-resident Aliens Who are Not Relatives of the Hunter Host or the Hunter Host's Spouse**

- Relatives are defined as father, brother, son, uncle, nephew, grandfather, grandson, son-in-law, brother-in-law (and female equivalents) of the Hunter Host or spouse of the Hunter Host.
- The Non-resident Alien and intended Hunter Host, if not related, must initiate an application at a Fish and Wildlife Division office for their licences, described above, by **August 31** of the licence year, or by the following **February 28** for the spring black bear hunt.
- The Non-resident Alien may apply to hunt only two (2) species of big game.

A Hunter Host

- Must be an adult resident, and be eligible to hold recreational hunting licences.
- Must be the holder of a valid WIN and Hunter Host Licence (below).
- **may not provide services for gain or reward, or accept remuneration, directly or indirectly, for such services.**
- may host a maximum of two (2) hunters/year, either Non-residents (Canadian), Non-resident Aliens or a combination thereof. If hosting 2 Non-resident Aliens, at least 1 must be a relative.
- may host Non-resident Aliens only if the host has not hosted a Non-resident Alien in the previous two (2) fiscal years (April 1 to March 31).
- must report to the Fish and Wildlife Division by December 31 in the year of harvest, all hunting activities by the Non-resident Aliens he or she hosted.
- must accompany the hunter(s) named on his or her Hunter Host Licence while they are hunting big game under the authority of the Hunter Host Licence.

Hunter Host Licence

A resident who wishes to be a Hunter Host may purchase a Hunter Host Licence at any private licence issuer. You must have the WIN(s) of the non-resident(s) at the time of purchase. You **must** ensure that the hunters you host are named on your Hunter Host Licence. If you purchase your Hunter Host Licence naming one hunter and you decide to add a second hunter to your licence at a later date, you can do so at no additional charge. Return to a private licence issuer with your licence and have it amended. Once you have purchased your Hunter Host Licence, the hunters may purchase their licences.

A Hunter Host who plans to take a **non-resident alien** hunting must do the following:

1. Go to a Fish and Wildlife Division office (see page 16) in person and initiate an application (including statutory declaration). Sign it and have your signature sworn. If the Non-resident Alien is not a relative, you must start this process by August 31 or February 28 as described above.
2. Have the Non-resident Alien sign the application and have his or her signature sworn. (If the Non-resident Alien does not have a WIN, have him fill out a WIN application at the same time.)
3. Take the completed application to a Fish and Wildlife Division office. The application will be reviewed for final approval and keyed into the automated licensing system.
4. When you are notified that your application is approved, go to any private licence issuer and purchase your Hunter Host Licence (see above) and the appropriate Wildlife Certificate and licences.

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Resident Licence Costs and Combinations

NOTE: The 5% federal Goods and Services Tax (GST) is not included in the costs listed below.

Prior to purchasing any licence, each hunter must possess a valid WIN (see page 20) and a Wildlife Certificate which costs \$28.22 (or \$8.30 for a Resident Youth Wildlife Certificate, page 22). Hunters wishing to hunt with a bow and arrow must also purchase a Bowhunting Permit (not required for hunting with a cross-bow).

Licence	Price (\$)	Restrictions Applying to the Species	Maximum Licences Allowed Per Hunter	
White-tailed Deer	36.95	A Resident Adult may obtain only 1 of the first 2 licences.	A Resident Adult or Youth may obtain 4 different licences from this list of 25, but not more than 1 licence from this list for any one species.	
Antlered White-tailed Deer Special Licence	36.65			
Youth White-tailed Deer ⁷	8.25	A Resident Youth may obtain only 1 of the last 3 licences.		
Special Antlered White-tailed Deer Partner Licence (Youth)	12.00			
Mule Deer	36.95	A Resident Adult may obtain only 1 of the first 2 licences.		
Antlered Mule Deer Special Licence	36.65			
Youth Mule Deer ⁷	8.25	A Resident Youth may obtain only 1 of the last 3 licences.		
Special Antlered Mule Deer Partner Licence (Youth)	12.00			
Elk	34.95	A Resident Adult may obtain only 1 of the first 6 licences.		
WMU 300 Elk Special Licence	34.65			
Cypress Hills Elk Special Licence	34.65	A Resident Youth may obtain only 1 of these 10 licences.		
Cypress Hills Elk Archery ¹	34.65			
Antlerless Elk Special Licence	34.65			
Antlered Elk Special Licence	34.65			
Special WMU 300 Elk Partner Licence (Youth)	12.00			
Special Cypress Hills Elk Partner Licence (Youth)	12.00			
Special Antlerless Elk Partner Licence (Youth)	12.00			
Special Antlered Elk Partner Licence (Youth)	12.00			
Moose	36.95	A Resident Adult may obtain only 1 of the first 6 licences.		
Antlerless Moose Special Licence	36.65			
Antlered Moose Special Licence	36.85	A Resident Youth may obtain only 1 of these 7 licences.		
Calf Moose Special Licence	36.65			
Special Antlered Moose Partner Licence	12.00			
Special Antlerless Moose Partner Licence	12.00			
Special Calf Moose Partner Licence (Youth)	12.00			
Trophy Sheep	51.31			A Resident who killed a sheep, except a legal non-trophy sheep, in 2007 may not purchase a Trophy Sheep Licence in 2008.
WMU 408 Trophy Sheep Special Licence	51.31			
WMU 410 Trophy Sheep Special Licence	51.31	A Resident Youth may obtain only of these 11 licences.		
WMU 437 Trophy Sheep Special Licence	51.31			
WMU 438 Trophy Sheep Special Licence	51.31			
WMU 444/446 Trophy Sheep Special Licence	51.31			
Special WMU 408 Trophy Sheep Partner Licence (Youth)	12.00			
Special WMU 410 Trophy Sheep Partner Licence (Youth)	12.00			
Special WMU 437 Trophy Sheep Partner Licence (Youth)	12.00			
Special WMU 438 Trophy Sheep Partner Licence (Youth)	12.00			
Special WMU 444/446 Trophy Sheep Partner Licence (Youth)	12.00			

continued on next page

Licence	Price (\$)	Restrictions Applying to the Species	Maximum Licences Allowed Per Hunter
Non-trophy Sheep Special Licence	27.40	A Resident Youth may obtain only 1 of these 2 licences.	A Resident Adult may obtain 1 of each of these 15 licences (excluding the Youth licences).
Special Non-trophy Sheep Partner Licence (Youth)	12.00		
Antlerless White-tailed Deer Special Licence	18.70	A Resident Youth may obtain only 1 of these 2 licences.	A Resident Youth may obtain 15 different licences from this list of 21, but not more than 1 licence from this list for any one species.
Special Antlerless White-tailed Deer Partner Licence (Youth)	12.00		
Supplemental Antlerless White-tailed Deer ²	19.15		
Strathcona White-tailed Deer	18.70		
Foothills Deer ³	18.70		
Antlerless Mule Deer Special Licence (issued to a youth)	21.20 (8.00)	A Resident Youth may obtain only 1 of these 2 licences.	
Special Antlerless Mule Deer Partner Licence (Youth)	12.00		
Supplemental Antlerless Mule Deer ⁸	19.00		
Antlerless Deer (WMUs 212 & 248)	10.70		
Camp Wainwright Deer Special Licence	37.99	A Resident Youth may obtain only 1 of these 2 licences.	
Special Camp Wainwright Deer Partner Licence (Youth)	12.00		
WMU 212 Antlerless Elk Archery	18.95		
Black Bear	15.65		
Supplemental Black Bear ⁴	15.45		
Cougar	51.31		
Goat Special Licence ⁶	51.11	A Resident Youth may obtain only 1 of these 2 licences.	
Special Goat Partner Licence (Youth)	12.00		
Bison Special Licence	50.00	A Resident Youth may obtain only 1 of these 2 licences.	
Special Bison Partner Licence (Youth)	12.00		
Antelope Archery Special Licence	51.31	None	A Resident Adult may obtain only 1 of the first 3 licences.
Non-trophy Antelope Special Licence	19.35		
Trophy Antelope Special Licence	51.31		A Resident Youth may obtain only 1 of these 6 licences.
Special Antelope Archery Partner Licence (Youth)	12.00		
Special Non-trophy Antelope Partner Licence (Youth)	12.00		
Special Trophy Antelope Partner Licence (Youth)	12.00		
Bowhunting Permit (not required for cross-bows)	9.20	Not Applicable	Not Applicable
Hunter Host Licence	27.00		
WIN Renewal	8.00		
Licence Reprint	2.00		
Tag Reprint ⁵	4.00		
Replacement WIN Card	4.00		

This licence is not valid during the Cypress Hills Elk Special Licence season for rifles.

This licence is only valid in the following WMUs: 150, 151, 162, 163, 200-208, 214, 216, 220-246, 250-260, 310, 312, 314, 322-357, 360, 436-446, 500-511, 514, 520, 521, 523-525, 527, 528 and 534-544. The 2nd tag will only be valid in WMUs 150, 151, 162, 163, 234, 236, 256, 258, 260, 334-357, 360, 437-446, 500, 502-511, 521, 523, 541, 542 and 544.

When hunting under the authority of this licence, valid in WMU 212 only, hunters must carry written permission to hunt from a landowner involved.

This licence is only valid in the following WMUs where 2 black bear licences may be used: 224, 250, 258, 260, 320-360, 429, 445, 500-544 and 841.

A statutory declaration must be completed at a Fish and Wildlife Division office (see page 16).

As of 2002, drawn applicants cannot reapply in future years (once-in-a-lifetime opportunity).

These licences are valid during the seasons that do not require one of the special licences obtained through a draw.

Special Licences (listed above) are available only through draws which occurred in June of this year.

Please refer to the 2009 Alberta Hunting Draws booklet in June 2009 for information on how to apply in these draws next year.

This licence will be issued with 2 tags. It is valid in WMUs 200, 234, 236, 256 and 500.

Non-resident (Canadian) Licence Availability

All Non-resident hunters of big game, wolf or coyote require a Big Game Designated Guide or a Hunter Host. See Outfitting and Guiding Requirements on page 23.

Non-residents who hunt with a Hunter Host may obtain White-tailed Deer, Antlered Mule Deer, Antlered Moose, Antlered Elk, Black Bear, Supplemental Black Bear, Cougar, and Wolf/Coyote Licences (see table below) from private licence issuers. Some special licences may be obtained through the draw system that will be described in the *2008 Alberta Hunting Draws* booklet available in June 2008.

Non-residents contracting a hunt with a Big Game Outfitter-guide may obtain Special Licences by using an allocation, available from their outfitter-guide. Wolf/Coyote licences can be purchased without an allocation. Non-residents using the services of an outfitter-guide must be guided by a Big Game Designated Guide.

Non-resident (Canadian) Licence Costs and Combinations

NOTE: The 5% federal Goods and Services Tax (GST) is not included in the costs listed below.

Prior to purchasing any licence, each hunter must possess a valid WIN (see page 20) and a Wildlife Certificate, which costs \$28.22. Hunters wishing to hunt with a bow and arrow must also purchase a Bowhunting Permit (not required for hunting with a cross-bow).

All **special** licences shown in the following table are available through a Big Game Outfitter-guide. Some are also available through the draw system.

Licence	Price (\$)	Restrictions Applying to the Species	Maximum Licences Allowed Per Hunter
White-tailed Deer	122.33	A Non-resident may obtain only 1 of these 2 licences.	A Non-resident may obtain 4 different licences from this list of 9, but not more than 1 licence for any one species.
Antlered White-tailed Deer Special Licence ¹	122.33		
Antlered Mule Deer	122.33	A Non-resident may obtain only 1 of these 2 licences.	
Antlered Mule Deer Special Licence ¹	122.33		
Antlered Elk	135.31	A Non-resident may obtain only 1 of these 2 licences.	
Antlered Elk Special Licence ¹	135.31		
Antlered Moose	135.31	A Non-resident may obtain only 1 of these 3 licences.	
Antlered Moose Special Licence ¹	135.31		
Special Antlered Moose Partner Licence	44.00		
Trophy Sheep Special Licence ^{1,2}	317.82	A Non-resident who killed a sheep in 2007 may not purchase a Trophy Sheep Special Licence in 2008.	A Non-resident may obtain 1 of each licence from this list of 3.
Wolf/Coyote	12.40	See page 59 for dates and restrictions.	
Trophy Antelope Special Licence ³	182.45	None	
Black Bear Licence	63.61	A Non-resident accompanied by a Hunter Host may obtain both of these licences.	A Non-resident may obtain 1 of each licence from this list of 2. However Non-residents purchasing 1 of these two licences may not purchase a Black Bear Special Licence.
Supplemental Black Bear Licence ⁴	63.61		
Black Bear Special Licence ⁵	63.61	Non-residents must purchase this licence through an outfitter-guide.	Non-residents purchasing this licence may not purchase a Black Bear Licence or a Supplemental Black Bear Licence.
Cougar	135.31	Non-residents hunting with a Hunter Host.	1 licence only from this list of 2.
Cougar Special Licence	135.31	Non-residents must purchase this licence through an outfitter-guide.	
Bowhunting Permit (not required for cross-bows)	16.45	Not Applicable	Not Applicable
WIN Renewal	8.00		
Licence Reprint	2.00		
Tag Reprint ⁶	4.00		
Replacement WIN card	4.00		

¹ These licences are available through the draw system or through an outfitter-guide. Please refer to the sections that deal with Non-resident (Canadian) Licence Availability (at the top of this page) and Outfitting and Guiding Requirements (page 23).

Footnotes continued on next page

Non-resident Trophy Sheep Special Licences are available through Class S Outfitter-guides or through a draw. Only 2 licences are available through a draw, and each hunter successful in the draw must be accompanied by a Hunter Host.

Non-resident Trophy Antelope Special Licences are available through an outfitter-guide or through a draw. Please refer to the sections that deal with Non-resident (Canadian) Licence Availability (page 26) and Outfitting and Guiding Requirements (page 23).

This licence is valid only in the following WMUs where 2 black bear licences may be used: 224, 250, 258, 260, 320-360, 429, 445, 500-544 and 841. Please see page 43 for more information.

These licences are valid for 2 black bears if the Outfitter-Guide's allocation is valid for a WMU where the Supplemental Black Bear Licence is valid (i.e., 2-bear areas).

A Statutory declaration must be completed at a Fish and Wildlife Division office (see page 16).

Non-resident Alien Licence Availability

All Non-resident Alien hunters of big game, wolf or coyote require either a Big Game Designated Guide or a Hunter Host. See Outfitting and Guiding Requirements on page 23.

Non-resident Aliens who hunt with a Hunter Host may obtain Antlered White-tailed Deer, Antlered Mule Deer, Antlered Moose, Antlered Elk, Black Bear Special Licences and Wolf/Coyote Licences (see table below) from licence issuers. See Outfitting and Guiding Requirements on page 23 for a summary of the circumstances under which these licences may be used and the limitations that apply.

Non-resident Aliens contracting a hunt with a Big Game Outfitter-guide must obtain Special Licences by using an allocation, available from their outfitter-guide. Wolf/Coyote licences can be purchased without an allocation. Non-resident Aliens using the services of an outfitter-guide must be guided by a Big Game Designated Guide.

Non-resident Alien Licence Costs and Combinations

NOTE: The 5% federal Goods and Services Tax (GST) is not included in the costs listed below.

Prior to purchasing any licence, each hunter must possess a valid WIN (see page 20) and a Wildlife Certificate, which costs \$28.22. Hunters wishing to hunt with a bow and arrow must also purchase a Bowhunting Permit (not required for hunting with a cross-bow).

Licence	Price (\$)	Restrictions Applying to the Species	Maximum Licences Allowed Per Hunter
Antlered White-tailed Deer Special Licence	188.57 ¹	None	A Non-resident Alien may obtain 1 of each licence from this list of 9.
Antlered Mule Deer Special Licence	188.57 ¹		
Antlered Elk Special Licence	254.97 ¹		
Antlered Moose Special Licence	254.97 ¹		
Black Bear Special Licence ²	79.62 ¹		
Trophy Sheep Special Licence ³	317.82 ¹	A Non-resident Alien who killed a sheep in 2007 may not purchase a Trophy Sheep Special Licence in 2008.	
Cougar Special Licence ³	254.97 ¹	None	
Wolf/Coyote Licence	12.40 ¹	See page 59 for wolf and coyote season dates and restrictions.	
Trophy Antelope Special Licence ³	229.47 ¹	None	
Bowhunting Permit (not required for cross-bows)	23.20	Not Applicable	Not Applicable
WIN Renewal	8.00		
Licence Reprint	2.00		
Tag Reprint ⁴	4.00		

If purchased through an outfitter-guide, or the Alberta Professional Outfitter Society, an additional service fee is charged.

This licence is valid for 2 black bears where the Resident and Non-resident (Canadian) Supplemental Black Bear Licences are valid (2-bear areas).

Trophy Sheep, Cougar and Trophy Antelope Special Licences are available to Non-resident Aliens only through an outfitter-guide.

A statutory declaration must be completed at a Fish and Wildlife Division office (see page 16).

GAME BIRD LICENCES

Alberta

Resident game bird hunters require a WIN card and a Wildlife Certificate and:

- a Game Bird Licence to hunt grouse, partridge and ptarmigan;
- a Game Bird Licence and a Pheasant Licence to hunt pheasant;
- a Game Bird Licence and a Federal Migratory Game Bird Hunting Permit to hunt waterfowl;
- a Merriam's Turkey Special Licence and a Game Bird Licence to hunt Merriam's turkey.

(NOTE: Merriam's Turkey Special Licences are available only through a draw. See page 60 for more information.)

Non-resident (Canadian) game bird hunters require a WIN card and a Wildlife Certificate and:

- either a Game Bird Licence or a 3-Day Game Bird Licence to hunt grouse, partridge and ptarmigan;
- either a Game Bird Licence or a 3-Day Game Bird Licence, and a Pheasant Licence to hunt pheasant;
- either a Game Bird Licence or a 3-Day Game Bird Licence, and a Federal Migratory Game Bird Hunting Permit to hunt waterfowl.

Non-resident Alien game bird hunters require a WIN card and a Wildlife Certificate and:

- an Upland Game Bird Licence to hunt grouse, partridge and ptarmigan;
- an Upland Game Bird and Pheasant Licence to hunt pheasant;
- a 6-Day Waterfowl Licence and a Federal Migratory Game Bird Hunting Permit to hunt waterfowl.

NOTE: The 5% federal Goods and Services Tax (GST) is not included in the costs listed below.

Prior to purchasing any licence, each hunter must possess a valid WIN (see page 20) and a Wildlife Certificate. The Wildlife Certificate costs \$28.22 (or \$8.30 for a Resident Youth Wildlife Certificate, page 22). Hunters wishing to hunt with a bow and arrow (but not a cross-bow) must also purchase a Bowhunting Permit.

Licence Costs

Game Bird Licence	Price (\$)		
	Resident	Non-resident (Canadian)	Non-resident Alien
Game Bird	10.80	31.96	Not Applicable
Upland Game Bird	Not Applicable	Not Applicable	78.50
6-Day Waterfowl ⁵	Not Applicable	Not Applicable	78.50
3-Day Game Bird ⁵	Not Applicable	22.45	Not Applicable
Pheasant	15.38	22.62	22.62
Merriam's Turkey Special Licence ^{1,2}	25.81	Not Applicable	Not Applicable
Special Merriam's Turkey Partner Licence (Youth) ¹	12.00	Not Applicable	Not Applicable
Bowhunting Permit	9.20	16.45	23.20
WIN Renewal	8.00	8.00	8.00
Licence Reprint	2.00	2.00	2.00
Tag Reprint ³	4.00	Not Applicable	Not Applicable
Federal Migratory Game Bird Hunting Permit ⁴	17.00	17.00	17.00

¹ A Resident Youth may obtain only 1 of these 2 licences.

² Available only through a draw, page 60.

³ A statutory declaration must be completed at a Fish and Wildlife Division office (see page 16).

⁴ Available at Post Offices and certain private licence issuers. See *Hunting in Alberta* website (page 16).

⁵ A hunter may purchase more than 1 of these licences.

EXPORTING

Alberta Export Permit

All big game, game birds, and furbearing animals (except tanned skins) require a provincial export permit (**\$20.00**) when they are to be conveyed beyond the borders of Alberta, except under the following conditions:

- Hunters who lawfully harvest game birds, coyotes, white-tailed deer, mule deer, moose, elk, pronghorn antelope or black bear* under the authority of a hunting licence or a right that is protected under Canadian Constitution, may export those species without an Alberta export permit if

- in the case of game birds, the bird has been processed as a mounted specimen, or

- the export occurs within 30 days of the date the animal was killed or within 5 days of the close of the season, whichever occurs first, and
- the shipment is accompanied by the hunter who killed the animal, and
- the appropriate licence is carried by the hunter who killed the animal being exported.

* Alberta prohibits the export of gall bladder and paws of black bear. You may export red meat, hide with claws attached, head or skull with teeth attached, but no other parts. See CITES Export Permit at top of next page.

- Coyote that have been lawfully hunted by residents do not require a provincial export permit.

Chronic Wasting Disease Management

Protecting Alberta's Deer

Unfortunately, Alberta is becoming all too familiar with Chronic Wasting Disease (CWD), the fatal neurological disease of deer and elk. The disease is associated with protein changes in the brain and also is known as cervid spongiform encephalopathy. Infected individuals experience weight loss, behavioural changes, and premature death. While it is difficult to document the direct effects of CWD on wild deer populations, recent data indicate a shift towards younger deer and fewer adult males in populations with the disease. Theoretical models indicate the disease has a significant effect on long-term survival.

Since 2005, a total of 53 cases of CWD have been detected in wild mule and white-tailed deer along the Alberta/Saskatchewan border: the disease has been detected in six Wildlife Management Units (WMUs) including WMUs 150, 151, 163, 234, 236, and 256 (see map).

Alberta implements an aggressive program of CWD management based on Canada's National Chronic Wasting Disease Control Strategy and the recommendations of an International Expert Panel on CWD. The program relies on two primary components: expanded recreational harvest in general areas of disease risk combined with strategic localized herd reduction around known infected deer. The hunter harvest is a primary surveillance tool for finding cases of CWD. The targeted herd reduction focuses on removing all deer that may have been in contact with an infected animal and provides an immediate reduction of deer density in the areas where there is greatest risk of the disease spreading.

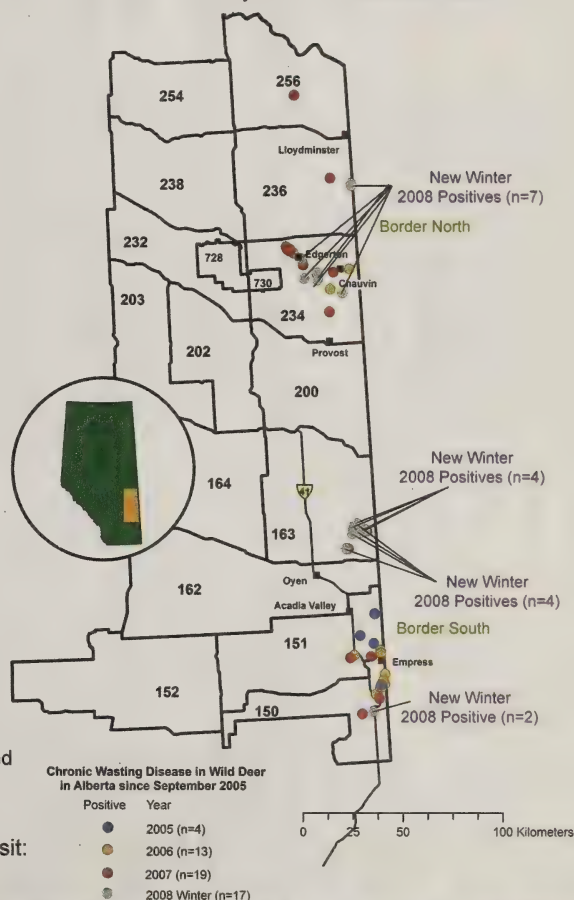
The combined program appears to be achieving its goals of finding and removing infected deer (of the 53 cases documented to date in Alberta, 1 was emaciated, 12 were collected by hunters, and 40 were collected during winter disease control efforts) as well as reducing the potential for the disease to establish in our eastern deer populations. The prevalence of CWD in high risk areas remains low.

The public, and hunters and outfitters in particular, play a vital role in CWD management. Deer heads submitted for testing and reports of emaciated deer help define the area where the disease occurs. Hunters who take advantage of increased hunting opportunities and remove deer from CWD high risk areas contribute to fewer deer on the landscape and less opportunity for disease transmission. Landowners also are key to successful deer herd reduction by allowing access for recreational hunting and for targeted control programs. In addition, two local Public Advisory Committees provide direct input and advice regarding specific aspects of the CWD programs. The cooperation and assistance of all stakeholders and interested parties is important and greatly appreciated.

It should be noted that the current programs are aimed at controlling this disease by limiting both the number of infected deer and the geographic extent of CWD. When better deer or disease management tools are available, they are more likely to succeed if the disease is present in smaller rather than larger areas.

Hunters are being offered additional opportunities to help control the disease by reducing deer numbers in CWD Control Areas in WMUs 150, 151, 163, 234, 236, and 256 during the 2008 hunting seasons. For more information on the expanded hunting opportunities please see pages 69 and 70 of this guide.

For more information contact your local Fish and Wildlife Office or visit:
www.srd.alberta.ca/fishwildlife/livingwith/diseases/



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Note: United States migratory bird hunting regulations state that it is unlawful for a person to import into the United States migratory game birds belonging to another person. Evidence of sex and species must remain attached to the bird until the final U.S. destination is reached.

For further information on the export of wildlife contact a Fish and Wildlife Division office (page 16).

CITES Export Permit

Persons exporting cougar, grizzly bear or wolf to points outside Canada must obtain a federal export permit issued in accordance with the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Flora and Fauna (CITES). In addition, provincial export permits must be obtained for exporting these species, except for tanned wolf skin. All black bear require CITES export permits, except for those exported by United States hunters as noted on this page. Black bears do not require the provincial export permit if they are exported as described in the Alberta Export Permit section.

U.S. Black Bear Hunters – A CITES export permit is no longer required for U.S. hunters to take their black bear hunting trophy home in a fresh, frozen or salted condition at the conclusion of their hunt. The trophy must be part of the accompanying baggage of the hunter who killed the animal.

This exemption does not apply to taxidermized trophies. All provincial export requirements still apply (see Alberta Export Permit section) and the trophy and documentation must be presented to Customs at the border when the hunters exit. Only the following parts of black bear may be exported: red meat, the hide with claws still attached, the head or skull with teeth attached, but no other parts. Alberta prohibits the export of the gall bladder or paws of black bear. Note that the CITES permit exemption for fresh black bear trophies applies only to U.S. hunters returning home and not to other hunters. An individual must not sell or dispose of the black bear within 90 days after the date on which the CITES exemption is claimed.

Other circumstances for Black Bear: Claws of black bear may not be exported from Alberta if they are separated from the whole skin. Partial skins of black bear that are processed (tanned or otherwise permanently preserved), black bear skulls with teeth attached (when not being shipped with a hunter returning home as described above) or taxidermized black bear skins may still be exported but only under a provincial export permit with a CITES permit. An unprocessed black bear skin that is not part of a returning hunter's baggage may still be shipped but requires both provincial and CITES export permits.

SALE OF WILDLIFE

The selling, buying, bartering, soliciting or trading in wildlife or wildlife parts, or offering to do so, is regulated under the *Wildlife Act* and Regulations. Many transactions are strictly prohibited, while others are regulated. For further information, contact a Fish and Wildlife Division office (page 16).

FOUND DEAD WILDLIFE

When driving or walking, hunters often find dead wildlife that they would like to keep. In most cases it is unlawful to possess such wildlife or parts of wildlife without first obtaining a permit. To apply for such a permit, contact a Fish and Wildlife Division office (page 16).

HUNTING PRIVILEGES ON OCCUPIED, PRIVATE AND PUBLIC LAND

Access to Public and Private Lands

Except under authority of a Game Bird Shooting Ground Licence, it is unlawful to directly or indirectly buy or sell, trade or barter, or offer to buy or sell access to any land for the purpose of hunting any big game, furbearing animals or game birds.

Hunting on privately owned lands without permission is a problem in Alberta. It generates anti-hunting sentiment among landowners and results in the prosecution of more than 200 hunters each year. They should leave gates as they find them, avoid damaging facilities or property, avoid disturbing livestock and establish friendly relations with landholders.

NOTE: Important changes to the *Petty Trespass Act* took effect in 2004. See page 33.

Although there is a moral obligation to pursue wounded game and a legal requirement to ensure game is retrieved and not wasted or abandoned, these obligations do not override the legal requirement to get permission to enter private land.

Access to Public Lands

Hunters are reminded that our privilege to access public lands is contingent upon courtesy and responsible conduct. It is the hunter's responsibility to know, understand and abide by access conditions that apply when using and enjoying these areas.

In addition to privately owned land, permission is always required before entering or crossing:

- Indian reserves (from appropriate band council),
- Métis settlements (from appropriate Métis settlement association)
- Public land under agricultural or grazing lease (from leaseholder), please see advertisement on page 21.

While recreational 'foot' access is generally accepted on public land, hunters should be aware that:

- Off-highway vehicle (OHV) access is prohibited in most provincial parks and provincial recreation areas.
- Off-highway vehicle access may be limited or prohibited within counties, municipal districts or within special public land management areas such as Forest Land Use Zones (FLUZs).
- Some FLUZs have designated OHV trail networks (i.e. Ghost Fluz). In these areas, hunters are required to operate OHVs only on designated trails even when retrieving game.
- Special conditions, such as extreme fire hazard, may warrant additional temporary access limitations.

Regardless of intent or mode of travel, all recreationists are expected and encouraged to respect, take pride, and play a stewardship role in maintaining the quality and character of Alberta's natural resources.

For more information, please contact your local Alberta Sustainable Resource Development office by dialing 310-0000 or visit srd.alberta.ca/lands/usingpublicland/recreation

Wildlife Act

Section 38 of the *Wildlife Act* specifies that no person shall hunt wildlife or discharge firearms on or over occupied lands, or enter onto such lands for the purpose of doing so without the consent of the owner or occupant.

The *Wildlife Act* defines "occupied lands" as follows:

- (a) privately owned lands under cultivation or enclosed by a fence of any kind and not exceeding one section in area on which the owner or occupant actually resides, and
- (b) any other privately owned land that is within 1.6 km (1 mi.) of the section referred to in clause (a) and that is owned or leased by the same owner or occupant.

The occupied lands described in the above legislation do not need to be



National Parks...

*Special Places,
Special Rules*

If you're hunting near Banff, Jasper, Waterton Lakes, Elk Island or Wood Buffalo National Parks of Canada, here's what you need to know...

In Canada's National Parks:

- Hunting is prohibited.
- Firearms are prohibited, except on through highways and in townsites where they must be unloaded and encased or dismantled.
- Collection or removal of natural objects is prohibited (e.g. antlers, skulls).

Close to the Boundary?

- It is your responsibility to know where you are in relation to park boundaries. Not all portions are clearly marked. Unsure? Obtain appropriate maps or contact park offices.
- Encouraging wildlife to move beyond park boundaries is illegal.
- If you wound an animal and it then enters the park, **DO NOT ENTER THE PARK WITH YOUR FIREARM.** Call the park warden office to deal with injured wildlife.

If you wish to report wounded animals or suspicious activities, call: **1 888 WARDENS** (toll free).

Les parcs nationaux...

*des endroits spéciaux,
des règles spéciales*

Si vous chassez près des parcs nationaux du Canada, Banff, Jasper, Lacs-Waterton, Elk Island ou Wood Buffalo, vous devez savoir que...

Dans les parcs nationaux du Canada :

- La chasse est interdite.
- Les armes à feu sont interdites, sauf sur les routes de transit et dans les lotissements urbains, où elles doivent être déchargées et être dans un étui ou démontées.
- Ramasser ou enlever des objets naturels est défendu (ex. bois, crânes).

Près de la périphérie?

- Il vous incombe de savoir où vous vous trouvez par rapport aux limites du parc. Certaines parties de la frontière ne sont pas clairement indiquées. Vous avez un doute? Procurez-vous les cartes nécessaires ou communiquez avec les bureaux de parc.
- Il est illégal d'inciter les animaux sauvages à se déplacer hors des limites de parc.
- Si un animal entre dans le parc après que vous l'ayez blessé, **N'ENTREZ PAS DANS LE PARC AVEC VOTRE ARME À FEU.** Téléphonez au bureau des gardes pour qu'ils s'occupent de l'animal blessé.

Pour signaler des animaux blessés ou des activités suspectes, composez : **1 888 WARDENS** (sans frais).



Parks Canada
Parcs Canada

Canada

posted with signs to receive protection under Section 38 of the *Wildlife Act*.

The black area in the map (right) shows an example of nine square miles of land that could contain land falling within the definition of “occupied lands.”

31	32	33	34	35	36
30	29	28	27	26	25
19	20	21	22	23	24
18	17	16	15	14	13
7	8	9	10	11	12
6	5	4	3	2	1

Potentially Occupied Lands
X Residence

Petty Trespass Act

Amendments to the *Petty Trespass Act* came into force June 1, 2004. While it is still possible for a landowner to prohibit entry on to his or her land by giving oral or written notice or by posting signs prohibiting entry, the amendments now set out certain kinds of property where entry is prohibited without any notice required. These lands include those privately owned lands (and leased public lands not associated with grazing or cultivation – these are addressed on page 21) that are under cultivation, fenced or enclosed by a natural boundary or enclosed in a manner that indicates the landholder’s intention to keep people off the premises or animals on the premises. **Importantly, hunters or others who access those lands must have permission before entering.**

Federal Criminal Code

The **Criminal Code** (Section 41) provides that a person in peaceable possession of real property can require a trespasser to vacate the property.

Access for Guiding

A Hunter Host, Big Game Designated Guide or Bird Game Designated Guide, when guiding on any privately held land, requires permission authorizing access from the landholder for conducting those guiding services on that land. Such a guide or host is required to carry on his person the landholder’s name, address (or legal land location of landholder’s residence) and telephone number.

Access for Control of Livestock Predation Black Bear and Coyote*

Any person who is (a) the owner or occupant of privately owned land, or (b) authorized to keep livestock on public land, or (c) a resident authorized by a person described in (a) or a resident authorized in writing by a person described in (b) may, without a licence, hunt (but not trap) black bear or coyote on such lands, at all times of the year.

Timber Wolf*

Any person who is (a) the owner or occupant of privately owned land, or (b) authorized to keep livestock on public land, or (c) a resident authorized by a person described in (a) or a resident authorized in writing by a person described in (b) may, without a licence and at all times of the year, hunt (but not trap) timber wolf on such lands, and on any lands within 8 km (5 mi.) of the above lands, provided he or she also has the right of access to these latter lands.

* It is not legally necessary to salvage pelts of furbearing animals (includes coyote and wolf) taken in accordance with regulations authorizing control of problem wildlife. Refer to page 59 for information about seasons for coyote and wolf.

Cougar

Any person who is the owner or occupant of privately owned land may at any time of year, hunt (but not trap) cougar on such lands, without a licence. Hunting with dogs is prohibited under this authority. Under this authority, registration is required within one week of the kill and the skin and skull or intact carcass must be turned in to a Fish and Wildlife District office (see page 16) to be retained by the Crown.

RESTRICTED AREAS

Alberta has a variety of restricted areas. Please read the following sections carefully to determine how the various designations affect hunting opportunities.

ALL HUNTING

Wildlife Sanctuaries

Sanctuaries are intended to provide secure habitat for wildlife and thus allow populations to either increase or remain at desired levels. They include areas of high quality habitat, often where populations of some wildlife species have been significantly lowered or dispersed because of disturbance at some time in the past. Sanctuary status allows these areas to realize their potential to support wildlife and to act as core areas of production for animals that will disperse to surrounding areas. It also increases the opportunities for Albertans to view wildlife.

NOTE: Privately owned lands within wildlife sanctuaries are excluded from the sanctuaries.

Road Corridor Wildlife Sanctuaries

It is unlawful to hunt within 365 m (400 yards) of the centre-line of the road in a designated road corridor wildlife sanctuary (a corridor 730 m or 800 yards wide). No person shall possess a weapon in these sanctuaries unless while crossing the sanctuary on horseback or on foot, the weapon, if it is a firearm, does not contain ammunition and the person is travelling in a direct route to leave the road corridor wildlife sanctuary.

There are 11 road corridor wildlife sanctuaries, shown in green on the enclosed WMU map. Eight are located in the Mountain and Foothills regions and three in the Boreal Region. Descriptions of the Road Corridor Wildlife Sanctuaries are as follows:

Mountain and Foothills

1. Greenwood – within 365 m (400 yards) of the centre-line of

- (a) Highway 40 between the southern boundary of Peter Lougheed Provincial Park and Secondary Road 541,
- (b) Secondary Road 541 between Highway 40 and the eastern boundary of the Rocky Mountain Forest Reserve;
2. Harold Creek – within 365 m (400 yards) of the centre-line of that portion of the road locally known as the Harold Creek Road between the eastern boundary of the Rocky Mountain Forest Reserve and Secondary Road 734;
3. Eagle Creek – within 365 m (400 yards) of the centre-line of that portion of the road locally known as the Ya Ha Tinda Ranch Road between Eagle Creek and the ranch headquarters buildings;
4. Elk Creek – within 365 m (400 yards) of the centre-line of that portion of Secondary Road 734 between Idlewild Creek and the road locally known as the Peppers Lake Road;
5. Ram Falls – within 365 m (400 yards) of the centre-line of that portion of Secondary Road 734 between the Ram River and the road locally known as the Onion Lake Road;
6. North Ram – within 365 m (400 yards) of the centre-line of that portion of Secondary Road 734 that is in Township 38, Range 15, West of the 5th Meridian and north of the North Ram River;
7. Kootenay Plains – within 365 m (400 yards) of the centre-line of that portion of Highway 11 between Allstones Creek and the eastern boundary of Banff National Park;
8. Highway 40/Little Smoky/Simonette – within 365 m (400 yards) of the centre-line of
 - (a) that portion of Highway 40 between the Berland River and the Muskeg River,
 - (b) the road locally known as the Huckleberry Tower Road,
 - (c) that portion of Secondary Road 734 between Highway 40 and its junction with the Foothills Forest Products Road locally known as the Smoky Mainline,
 - (d) the Foothills Forest Products Road locally known as the Smoky Mainline in Townships 57 and 58, Ranges 2, 3, 4, 5 and 6, West of the 6th Meridian,

- (e) that portion of the Foothills Forest Products Road locally known as the Ghost Mainline in Townships 57, 58, 59 and 60, Ranges 1, 2, 3, 4 and 5, West of the 6th Meridian,
- (f) the Foothills Forest Products Road locally known as the Simonette Mainline in Townships 58 and 59, Ranges 3 and 4, West of the 6th Meridian;

Boreal Region

- 9. Whitemud Hills – within 365 m (400 yards) of the centre-line of the Peace River Pulp Road locally known as the Whitemud Hills Haul Road from Highway 35 to the western boundary of Section 14, Township 85, Range 2, West of the 6th Meridian;
- 10. Sulphur Lake – within 365 m (400 yards) of the centre-line of the Peace River Pulp Road locally known as the Sulphur Lake Haul Road from the southeast corner of Township 88, Range 1, West of the 6th Meridian to its junction with the road locally known as the Canfor East Road in Township 89, Range 3, West of the 6th Meridian;
- 11. Peace River Pulp Mill – within 365 m (400 yards) of the centre-line of
 - (a) the portion of secondary road 986 locally known as the Peace River Pulp Road between the Peace River Pulp Mill in township 85, range 21, west of the 5th meridian easterly to its junction with the road locally known as the Peace River Pulp Resource Road in the south-east quarter of section 17, township 85, range 19, west of the 5th meridian.
 - (b) the road locally known as the Peace River Pulp Resource Road from its intersection with secondary road 986 in the south-east quarter of section 17, township 85, range 19, west of the 5th meridian northerly to the centre of the north-east quarter of section 14, township 90, range 20, west of the 5th meridian.

Seasonal Sanctuaries

No person shall approach within 800 metres (0.5 mile) of any of the following seasonal sanctuaries between April 15 and September 15.

- 1. The island known as Pelican Island in Newell Lake in Township 17, Range 15, W4M;
- 2. The unnamed island in Namur Lake in Sections 35 and 36, Township 97, Range 17, W4M;
- 3. The unnamed island in Beaverhill Lake in Section 5, Township 52, Range 17, W4M;
- 4. The unnamed island in the unnamed lake in Section 8, 9, 16 and 17, Township 95, Range 17, W4M;
- 5. The unnamed island in Scope Reservoir in LSD 2 and 3, Section 10, Township 13, Range 14, W4M.

No person shall enter the following seasonal sanctuaries between April 15 and September 15:

- 1. That portion of the unnamed island in Lower Therien Lake in the NW Quarter of Section 14, Township 57, Range 10, W4M;
- 2. That portion of Lower Therien Lake in Section 2, 3, 10 and 11, Township 57, Range 10, W4M;
- 3. The unnamed islands in the Slave River in the SW Quarter of Section 30, Township 126, Range 10, W4M, and the SE Quarter of Section 25 Township 126, Range 11, W4M;
- 4. The island known as Bird Island in Buffalo Lake in Section 30, Township 40, Range 20, W4M;
- 5. The unnamed island in Joseph Lake in Section 12, Township 50, Range 22, W4M.

No person shall enter the following seasonal sanctuaries between May 1 and August 15:

- 1. The following lands to the extent that, at any given time, they are not covered by any of the waters of Muriel Lake,
 - a) within township 59, range 5, west of the fourth meridian, the east half of legal subdivisions 9 and 16 of section 19; legal subdivisions 12, 13, 14, 15 and 16 of section 20; legal subdivisions 13 and 14 of section 21; the northeast quarter of section 21; legal subdivisions 2, 3 and 4 of section 28; legal subdivisions 10 and 11 of section 29; the southeast quarter and the southwest quarter of section 29;
 - b) within township 60, range 5, west of the fourth meridian, legal subdivisions 5, 11, 12, 13 and 14 of section 1; legal subdivisions 8, 9, 15 and 16 of section 2; the southeast quarter and the northeast quarter of section 11; legal subdivisions 3 and 4 of section 12.
- 2. All areas within legal subdivisions 10, 11, 12, 13, 14 and 15 of section 35, township 68, range 15, west of the fourth meridian and legal subdivisions 9 and 16 of section 34, township 68, range 15, west of the fourth meridian.

Métis Settlements

In general, only a member of a Métis Settlement Association, formed under the *Métis Settlements Act*, may hunt or trap wildlife on a Métis Settlement. Hunting by non-members may be authorized under settlement by-laws.

Natural Areas

Natural areas are special parcels of public land that are formally set aside by the Alberta Government to protect sensitive and scenic land from disturbance. Natural areas fall in the middle of the range of conservation lands in Alberta, between strictly protected lands – such as ecological reserves and provincial parks – and lands intensively developed for recreation. The main objective of natural areas management is to maintain the natural features and characteristics of the site. Development of any facilities is kept to a minimum.

Generally, hunting is permitted in most natural areas. However, there are some sites with special management or safety considerations that restrict

hunting and access (e.g., Wagner Natural Area, Riverlot 56, and Sherwood Park Natural Area near Edmonton).

For information about a specific site or the Natural Areas Program, contact Parks and Protected Areas Division, Alberta Tourism, Parks and Recreation at 780-427-3582 (toll free 1-866-427-3582).

Ecological Reserves

Ecological reserves contain representative or special provincial natural features. The management intent of the reserves is to allow natural processes to occur. The *Wilderness Areas, Ecological Reserves and Natural Areas Act* prohibits hunting within ecological reserves, unless it is required for management purposes to simulate natural events. For example, hunting for big game is allowed in Upper Bob Creek Ecological Reserve, located in WMU 308, but the use of motorized vehicles is not permitted.

Alberta's Ecological Reserves Program is part of a larger international program to preserve natural ecosystems. Ecological reserves protect representative areas in each of the natural regions of Alberta for the conservation of genetic resources, to allow for the appreciation of nature, to preserve our natural heritage, and to establish ecological benchmarks and control areas for research and education.

For further information on ecological reserves, contact Alberta Tourism, Parks and Recreation at 780-427-3582 (toll free 1-866-427-3582).

Heritage Rangelands

Heritage rangelands are established to preserve and protect natural heritage that is representative of Alberta's grasslands, using grazing to maintain the grassland environment. Seven heritage rangelands have been established in Alberta, with interim designation as natural areas: Black Creek, Twin River, Onefour, Tolman Badlands, Killamey-Reflex Lakes, Ribstone Creek and Beaverhill Lake heritage rangeland natural areas. These sites are open to hunting, according to the provisions in place for hunting in natural areas. Recreational vehicle use is discouraged in all of these sites, with the exception of Beaverhill Lake, where traditional snowmobile use continues to be permitted. For current information about heritage rangeland natural areas, contact the Parks and Protected Areas Division, Alberta Tourism, Parks and Recreation at 780-427-3582 (toll-free 1-866-427-3582).

Provincial Parks and Recreation Areas

Except for Wildland Provincial Parks (see page 37) or for the limited seasons provided in WMUs 624 (Cypress Hills Provincial Park), 936 (Blackfoot Recreation Area) and 841 (Lakeland Recreation Area), it is unlawful to hunt, or to carry or discharge a firearm in a provincial park or recreation area without a firearms carry and discharge permit.

* Otherwise, all firearms must be unloaded, encased or dismantled. In the case of Blackfoot Recreation Area, hunters will need to obtain a "Firearms Discharge Permit" from the office at Blackfoot Provincial Recreation Area prior to engaging in any hunting-related activity inside the recreation area.

Forest Recreation Areas

It is unlawful to discharge a firearm within a forest recreation area. It is also unlawful to "dress" a big game animal within a forest recreation area.

Kananaskis Country

Hunters are reminded that other people use Kananaskis Country trails and camping areas for recreational purposes. Discharging and handling of firearms must be done with care and respect for the safety of others. Access to some areas may be affected when recreational trails and roads for industrial use are temporarily closed. For further information, contact Alberta Tourism, Parks and Recreation in Kananaskis Country.

National Parks

Hunting is prohibited in national parks, and hunters should be especially careful about their locations when hunting near park boundaries. Firearms are prohibited in national parks except on through highways and in town

sites, where they must be unloaded and encased.

Other Restricted Areas

Except for the special seasons provided in WMUs 728 and 730, hunting is not permitted in the following areas:

- Cold Lake Air Weapons Range (WMU 726),
- Canadian Forces Base Wainwright (WMUs 728 and 730),
- Canadian Forces Base Suffield (WMU 732),
- Ghost River Wilderness Area (WMU 734),
- Greene Valley Wildlife Management Unit (WMU 926),
- Siffleur Wilderness Area (WMU 736),
- White Goat Wilderness Area (WMU 738), and
- within 91 m (100 yards) of Highway 1 or Highway 1A in WMU 410.

BIG GAME HUNTING

The hunting of big game is not permitted in the following areas:

- the Gregg River Resources Coal Mineral Surface Lease in WMU 438, and
- the Cardinal River Coal Mineral Surface Lease in WMU 438.

Saskatoon Mountain Primitive Weapons Area

Only shotguns, muzzleloaders, cross-bows and archery equipment may be used to hunt big game in this area in WMU 357 near Grande Prairie (see enclosed Wildlife Management Unit Map).

Restricted Areas for Trophy and Non-trophy Sheep

It is unlawful to hunt trophy or non-trophy sheep within the following areas:

- 183 m (200 yards) of the Canada Cement rock quarry at Exshaw.
- 0.8 km (0.5 mi.) of Highway 1A between the western boundary of the Stoney Indian Reserve and Canmore,
- 0.8 km (0.5 mi.) of Highway 3,
- 1.6 km (1 mi.) of the Sheep River from the eastern boundary of WMU 406 upstream to Dyson Creek,
- 1.6 km (1.0 mi.) of the Inland Cement Rock Quarry near Cadomin,
- 1.6 km (1.0 mi.) of the intersection of Whitehorse Creek and the main forestry trunk road south of Cadomin,
- 1.6 km (1.0 mi.) of where Highway 16 intersects the eastern boundary of Jasper National Park,
- 3.2 km (2.0 mi.) of the intersection of the Forestry Trunk Road and the South Ram River in Section 18, Township 36, Range 13, West of the Fifth Meridian,

GAME BIRD HUNTING

Game Bird Sanctuaries

Hunting game birds and carrying shotguns are prohibited in game bird sanctuaries except with a special permit. Descriptions of these sanctuaries are available from the Queen's Printer in Edmonton or Calgary (page 12). Game bird sanctuaries are located in the following WMUs:

WMU	Sanctuary	WMU	Sanctuary
102	Pakowki Lake	242	Ministik Lake
148	Many Island Lake	242	Miquelon Lake
212	Inglewood	357	Saskatoon Lake
220	Red Deer	503	Lac La Biche
238	Birch Lake	530	Richardson Lake



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Restricted Rivers

Hunting of migratory game birds on the following rivers, over any islands in these rivers or within 91 m (100 yards) of the edge of the waters of these rivers is prohibited until November 1:

1. Bow River downstream from the corporate limits of the City of Calgary to Highway 24.
2. Little Smoky River downstream from Highway 43.
3. Peace River.
4. Red Deer River downstream from the corporate limits of the City of Red Deer.
5. Smoky River downstream from the mouth of the Wapiti River.
6. South Saskatchewan River downstream from the corporate limits of the City of Medicine Hat.

Restricted Lakes

Hunting game birds on the following lakes, over any island in these lakes or within 0.8 km (0.5 mi.) of the edge of the waters of these lakes is prohibited until November 1 (Note additional restrictions below for Saskatoon Lake and Ministik Lake). Efforts are made to post signs near these lakes, but not all lakes may be so identified. It is the hunter's responsibility to know the restrictions in the area he or she hunts.

Prairie WMUs

- 160 Little Fish Lake (28-16,17-W4)
- 162 Berry Creek Reservoir (Carolside Dam) (26,27-12-W4)
- 162 Blood Indian Creek Reservoir (26-9-W4)
- 162 Birkenshire Lake (23,24-28-11-W4)
- 163 Currant Lake (33-3-W4)
- 163 Grassy Island Lake (33-3-W4)
- 163 Misty Lake (33-3-W4)
- 163 Sounding Creek Reservoir (30-5,6-W4)
- 164 Fitzgerald Lake (3,4-33-8-W4)
- 164 Kirkpatrick Lake (33,34-9,10-W4)
- 164 Rushmere Lake (33-8-W4)
- 164 Syson Lake (35-12,13-W4)
- 164 Grays Lake (28,32,33-32-7-W4)
- 164 Wiste Lake (2,11-33-7-W4)
- 164 Unnamed Lake (23 to 27-33-8-W4)
- 164 Unnamed Lake (31,32-33-8-W4)
- 164 Polly Lake (7-31-1-W4)

- 164 Willowbend Reservoir (K-B Lake) (1-31-13-W4)
- 166 Dowling Lake (31,32-14,15-W4)
- 166 Sullivan Lake (34 to 37-14,15-W4)

Parkland WMUs

- 200 Sounding Lake (36,37-3,4-W4)
- 202 Armstrong Lake (42-10-W4)
- 202 Unnamed Lake (8,9-38-10-W4)
- 203 Bellshill (Goose) Lake (42-11-W4)
- 206 Buffalo Lake (40,41-20,21,22-W4**)
- 221 Cygnet Lake (38-1-W5 and 38-28-W4)
- 228 Driedmeat Lake (44,45-19,20-W4)
- 232 Blackburn Lake (10,11-43-10-W4)
- 234 Dolcy Lake (26,35-42-4-W4)
- 234 Gillespie Lake (39,40-2-W4)
- 234 McIntyre Lake (16,17-44-1-W4)
- 236 Kenilworth Lake (50-4-W4)
- 242 Beaverhill Lake (that portion lying in 50,51-17,18-W4 – approx. southern 1/2 of lake)
- 242 Ministik Lake* (50-21-W4)
- 242 Oliver Lake (50-21-W4)
- 242 Lake 'A' (50,51-17-W4) adjacent to Beaverhill Lake
- 252 Whitford Lake (56-15,16-W4)

* *Hunting of game birds in the Ministik Lake Game Bird Sanctuary is prohibited.*

** Hunting of upland game birds only is permitted in 9-40-21-W4.

Foothills WMUs

- 357 Saskatoon Lake* (including Little Lake) (71, 72-7,8-W6)
- * *Hunting of game birds in Saskatoon Lake Federal Migratory Bird Sanctuary is prohibited.*

Boreal WMUs

- 502 Stebbing Lake (63-7-W4)
- 523 Winagami Lake* (76,77-18,19-W5)
- 523 Kimiwan Lake (78-19-W5)
- 523 Lac Magloire (79-21-W5)

* Winagami Lake is within Winagami Lake Provincial Park. Hunting is prohibited on the lake and islands.

VEHICLE RESTRICTIONS

The use of vehicles, including off-highway vehicles (OHVs), is controlled by various regulations. Refer to the enclosed Wildlife Management Unit Map for more information.

Vehicle Use and Restrictions

The 'footprint' of vehicles is much greater than the average foot. Noise, erosion, soil compaction, habitat disturbance and vegetation impacts generally increase with vehicle use. Hunters are requested to minimize the impacts of vehicles where they are permitted and abide by limitations to vehicle use where applicable.

All off-highway vehicles (OHVs) operated on public land must be registered, insured and have a visible licence plate. Vehicles must also have a headlight, tail light, muffler and spark arrestor.

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Forest Land Use Zones (FLUZ)

Several areas in the province are designated as FLUZs to allow for the management of recreational interests and pressures on local ecology. On and off highway vehicle restrictions apply in all FLUZs and may limit vehicle type, trail access and seasons open to vehicle use. WMU and FLUZ boundaries may overlap and all – or portions of – WMUs may have vehicle access restrictions. Please refer to FLUZ maps available at your local SRD office or <http://srd.alberta.ca/lands/usingpublicland/recreation> for details.

Wildland Provincial Parks

Hunting is allowed in the Wildland Provincial parks shown on the enclosed WMU map. However, special access restrictions apply to all



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Forest Land Use Zone (FLUZ)	Off-Highway Vehicles	Associated WMUs
Allison Chinook	Seasonal access on designated trails only	402
Athabasca Ranch	Seasonal access only	344
Brule Lake	Designated corridors only	438
Castle	Seasonal access on designated trails only	400
Cataract Creek Snow Vehicle	Snowmobiles only with additional conditions	404
Coal Branch	Seasonal access on designated trails only	436-438
Dormer / Sheep	Designated trails only	416
Ghost	Designated trails only	316, 412, 414, 416
Job / Cline	Seasonal access on designated trails only	426, 430, 432, 434
Kiska / Willson	Designated trails only with some seasonal restrictions	326, 328, 416-418, 420, 422, 426, 428-430
McLean Creek Off-Highway	Permitted with conditions	406
Sibbald Snow Vehicle	Snowmobiles only with additional conditions	406
Blackstone / Wapiti	NOT PERMITTED	430, 434
Holmes Crossing	NOT PERMITTED	507
Kananaskis Country	NOT PERMITTED	404, 406, 408
Panther Corners	NOT PERMITTED	416, 418
Whitecourt Sandhills X-Country Ski	NOT PERMITTED	507

motorized vehicles. For example, Bob Creek Wildland Provincial Park provides a network of designated trails on which only specific OHVs (quads and snowmobiles) may be operated from May 1 to December 15. For more detailed information, contact Alberta Tourism, Parks and Recreation.

Hunting with Motorized Vehicles

It is unlawful to

- discharge a **weapon** at antelope from within 46 m (50 yards) of a vehicle;
- use motorized travel within Willmore Wilderness Park; and
- carry a weapon (see definition on page 15) on an OHV **between 1 hour before sunrise and the following noon** during an open season for big game on public land in the following WMUs: 102-166, 200-260, 300-351, 354-360, 400-446, 507, 508, 514, 521, 522, 526 and 841. This does not apply when the operator is on a direct route to or from a location accessible by vehicles designed for highway travel and his or her isolated campsite, and the weapons and ammunition are carried out of view in separate locked containers. Also, the restriction does not apply in a WMU when the only big game season open is a spring black bear season.

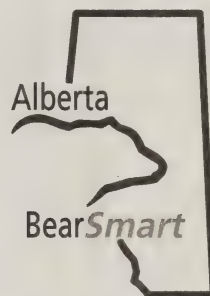
Recreation Trails

A number of forested areas throughout Alberta have designated recreation trails. These areas allow a variety of activities including hiking, horseback riding, cross-country skiing and snowmobiling. Trail users and backcountry travellers should be aware of current land use restrictions. For more information on recreation trails, contact the Information Centre in Edmonton (see page 16).

Trappers' Trails

Many trails on Crown lands are created and maintained by trappers. To avoid interference with trapline operations, recreationists are urged to avoid motorized use of trails marked with signs indicating "Active Trapline," especially during trapping seasons of November through February.

Hunters in Bear Country



Learn to avoid conflicts with bears

- Be wary when gutting a harvested animal - the smell of blood and entrails may attract a bear. Try to remove your animal quickly in one trip.
- If you must leave or store a carcass, pick a spot with long, clear sightlines, and hang the meat at least 3 metres off the ground and 100 metres from camp.
- Use extreme caution returning to a kill site. Make loud noises to scare off bears.
- If there is a bear at your kill site and scare methods (loud noises, firing a shot into the air) do not result in the bear leaving the carcass, exit the area and report the incident to a Fish and Wildlife office.

Black Bear Hunters!

Know which species of bear is in your sights before you shoot.

Refer to the Big Game Identification page in this guide.

When in bear country, be alert and be BearSmart.

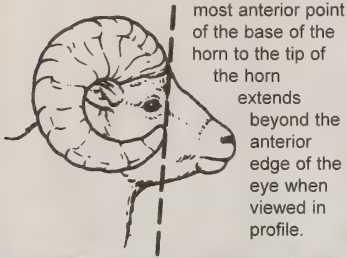
For more information go to www.albertabearsmart.ca

Alberta

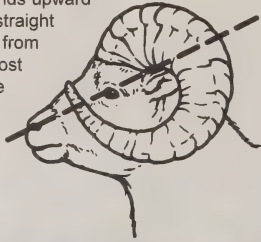
BIG GAME REGULATIONS

— Big Game Identification —

Trophy Sheep — A male bighorn sheep with horns, one of which is of sufficient size that a straight line drawn from the



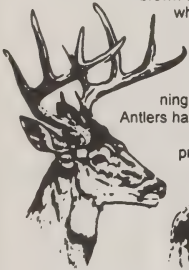
Full-Curl Trophy Sheep — A male bighorn sheep with horns, one of which is of sufficient size that when viewed in profile, its tip extends upward beyond a straight line drawn from the rear-most point of the base of the horn to the centre of the nostril.



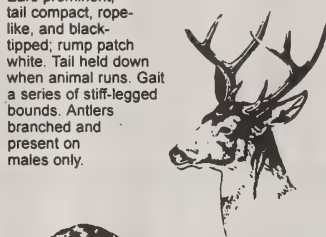
Be Careful!

Study a ram carefully when determining its trophy status. Be sure to view the ram's head from a horizontal plane and in profile, with the front of the right and left horn bases aligned. Views from below, in front, or any other perspective other than "in profile" will not provide for accurate judgement. Some rams may not be legal even if they are old or have horns severely broomed or with turned up tips.

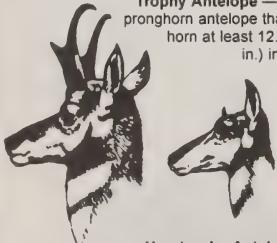
White-tailed Deer — Body color grey to reddish brown, under body white. Tail large and bushy, brown on upper surface and white on lower surface. Tail often held erect and "flagged" when animal runs. Gait a series of short running dashes and bounds. Antlers have individual tines off main beams. Antlers present on males only.



Mule Deer — Body color grey to brownish grey, under body white. Ears prominent; tail compact, rope-like, and black-tipped; rump patch white. Tail held down when animal runs. Gait a series of stiff-legged bounds. Antlers branched and present on males only.

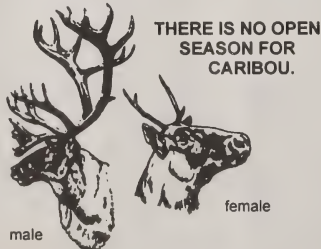


Trophy Antelope — A male pronghorn antelope that has a horn at least 12.6 cm (5 in.) in length.



Non-trophy Antelope — A female pronghorn antelope or a male pronghorn antelope having horns not more than 7.6 cm (3 in.) in length.

Woodland Caribou — Woodland Caribou are classified as Threatened animals in Alberta.



lamb



yearling ewe

Non-trophy Sheep — A female bighorn sheep or a male bighorn sheep under one year of age.



yearling ram (illegal)



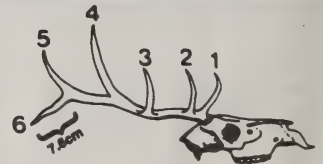
adult ewe

Antlered

A white-tailed deer, mule deer, moose or elk having an antler exceeding 10.2 cm (4 in.) in length.

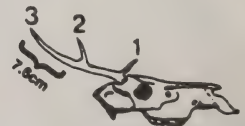
Antlerless

A white-tailed deer, mule deer, moose or elk that is not "antlered" (as defined above).



Six-point Elk — A male elk bearing an antler that is composed of a main beam from which project not fewer than five tines, each of which is at least 7.6 cm (3 in.) in length.

Note: The tip of the main beam must be at least 7.6 cm (3 in.) from the base of the last tine counted.



Three-point Elk — A male elk bearing an antler that is composed of a main beam from which project not fewer than two tines, each of which is at least 7.6 cm (3 in.) in length.

Note: The tip of the main beam must be at least 7.6 cm (3 in.) from the base of the last tine counted.

Hump

GRIZZLY



Dished Face Profile

14 cm



13 cm



24.5 cm

No Hump

BLACK BEAR



Straight Face Profile

9.5 cm



9 cm



18 cm

Moose

Cow – large, long nose and face; eyes appear close to top of head; rectangular body proportions; 1.8 m (6 ft.) high at the shoulder; may be found alone.

Calf – small, short nose and face; eyes appear more centered between tip of nose and top of head; squarish body proportions; 1.2 m (4 ft.) high at the shoulder; seldom found alone.

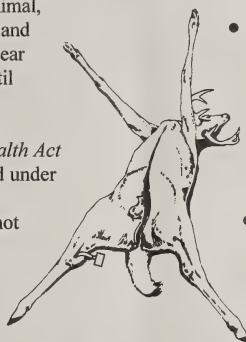


EVIDENCE OF SEX, SPECIES AND CLASS

Evidence of sex, species and class must be retained (cannot be surgically or otherwise removed) on the carcass of big game animals, except black bear, until the carcass is delivered to either of the following:

- the usual residence of the person who killed the animal, and the carcass is actually being butchered, cut up and packaged for consumption. In the case of grizzly bear or cougar, the evidence of sex must be retained until the animal has been registered (page 43), or
- a premises* in respect of which there is a Food Establishment Permit issued under the *Public Health Act* or Licence for the Operation of an Abattoir issued under the *Meat Inspection Act*.

*Note: The evidence of sex, species or class cannot be removed until it is delivered to one of these premises.



The evidence of sex, species or class that must be retained is as follows:

- **moose, elk, deer, antelope, bison and non-trophy sheep** – attached to the same part of the animal to which the tag is affixed, **one** of the following:
 - testicles, scrotum, or udder, and in the case of deer only, the

completely haired tail, or

- the head with horns or antlers attached if the animal has horns or antlers, or
- the head (complete with the skin on it) if the animal has no horns or antlers, and
- in addition,
 - the complete skull plate with horns or antlers intact must be retained with the carcass of the male antelope, male elk or male non-trophy sheep
 - the complete head must be retained with the carcass of a calf moose harvested under authority of a Calf Moose Special Licence.

- **cougar** – one of the following attached to the skin and visible:
 - in the case of a male, the scrotum
 - in the case of a female, a teat or a portion of a mammary gland.

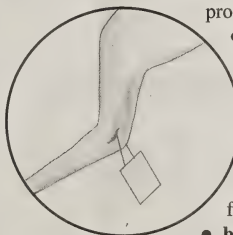
To retain the scrotum or udder, cut to one side of the scrotum or udder when opening the animal for gutting. If you skin your game, the scrotum or udder must remain attached to the meat. If you remove the testicles and penis, leave the entire scrotum intact. The meat will not be tainted.

TAGGING

NOTE: Antlered moose, elk and deer must **NOT** be tagged around the antler base. Please review the following instructions.

Immediately after killing a big game animal, the appropriate tag(s) must be affixed and securely locked to the animal as follows:

- **trophy sheep, goat** – one tag through the nostril and, as soon as the skin is removed from the skull, one tag around the lower bone of the eye socket leaving the horns and eye intact.
- **moose, elk, deer, antelope, bison and non-trophy sheep** – through the space between the bone and the tendon of a hind leg directly above the hock and around either the bone or the tendon.
- **bear and cougar** – to the skin.



primary licence holder must, immediately upon arriving at the carcass, tag the animal in the normal fashion (See page 23 for more information).

Tags must remain affixed until, in the case of

- **trophy sheep, goat** – the animal is registered (page 43) and the skin is processed.
- **moose, elk, deer, antelope, bison or non-trophy sheep** – the carcass is delivered to the usual residence of the person who killed the animal or to a premises (i.e., meat plant or butcher shop) in respect of which there is a Food Establishment Permit issued under the *Public Health Act* or Licence for the Operation of an Abattoir issued under the *Meat Inspection Act* and the carcass is actually being butchered, cut and packaged for consumption.
- **bear and cougar** – the skin is processed.

Partner Licence

Upon killing an animal, a partner must immediately inform the primary licence holder (and vice versa – if the primary licence holder kills the animal, he or she must immediately inform the partner) of the killing. The

To tag your kill using the adhesive tag that comes with your licence, attach the wire loop to the animal as described above for various species and classes. Close and secure the loop by affixing the adhesive tag over the free ends of the wire.

BOWHUNTING

Note: The following applies to bowhunting other than with a cross-bow. For information about hunting with cross-bows, see page 60.

Except for the hunting of black bear, coyote or wolf under the

circumstances outlined on page 33, a Bowhunting Permit is required by anyone who hunts big game, game bird, wolf or coyote with a bow and arrow. Bowhunters with appropriate general or special licences may hunt during the general seasons as well as archery-only seasons. A Bowhunting

BOWHUNTING (continued)

Permit is required in combination with a big game licence. In some areas of the province, hunters require special licences to hunt certain species of big game – see season tables. A bowhunter who obtains an Antlered Moose Special Licence, Antlerless Moose Special Licence, Calf Moose Special Licence, Antlered Mule Deer Special Licence, Antlerless Mule Deer Special Licence, Antlered White-tailed Deer Special Licence, Antlerless White-tailed Deer Special Licence, Antlered Elk Special Licence or Antlerless Elk Special Licence may, if an early archery season is offered, hunt under the authority of that licence during the archery season but only in the WMU specified on the licence and only for the type and species of animal for which the licence was issued. Bowhunters are reminded that, in some situations, archery-only seasons for some species may be in progress at the same time as primitive weapon and rifle seasons for other species in the same WMU. Bowhunters, under the authority of their White-tailed Deer Licence or Mule Deer Licence can hunt during the primitive weapon season.

Persons hunting big game must use an authorized bow and an authorized arrow. An authorized bow is one that is held, drawn and released by muscular power and has a draw weight of not less than 18 kg (40 lb.). This is the number of kilograms (pounds) required to draw an arrow of 71 cm (28 in.) to its head. An authorized arrow is one that is not less than 61 cm (24 in.) in length that has a tip that bears a head that is not intentionally designed to resist being withdrawn after it has penetrated an object. Furthermore, it must either have a solid, sharp cutting head of at least 7/8 inch in width, or a head that, when the arrow impacts, opens to present sharp cutting edges at least 7/8 inch in width.

Hunters are asked to remove their tree stands at the end of the hunting seasons unless permission has been granted by the landholder to do otherwise.

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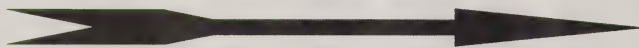
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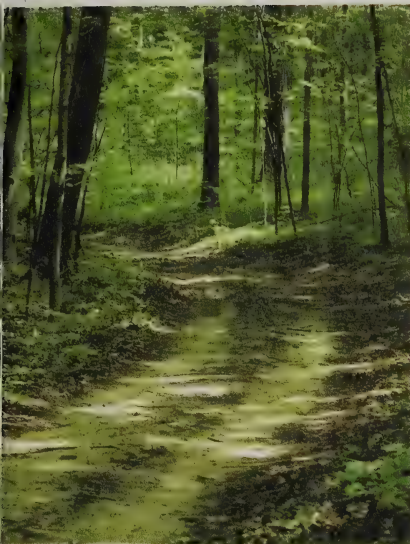
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WILDLIFE COMPULSORY REGISTRATION

After harvesting **any** of the animals listed below, a hunter must register the kill at a Fish and Wildlife Division office (page 16) within the specified time period. Where parts are required to be submitted, they must be submitted at the time the animal is registered in person by the hunter who killed the animal. For species where parts are not required to be submitted, the hunter who killed the animal may not have to attend in person at the time of registration. Contact a Fish and Wildlife office (page 6) for further information.

Goat (the incisor bar must be submitted);

Male sheep over 1 year of age (the complete unaltered skull with horns and eyes intact must be submitted);

Wolves taken in any of WMUs 300 to 318, 324 to 330, 339 or 400 to 434 under any authority;

Cougar and bobcat (the skin must be submitted complete with the evidence of sex attached and visible).

Bison taken in WMUs 536 and 539. (Successful draw applicants will be contacted about collecting biological samples).

Registration Deadlines – All registrations (except for cougar, bison and sheep) must be completed no later than 14 days after the close of the open season during which the animal was killed or 30 days after the date on which the animal was killed, whichever occurs first. Cougars must be

registered within 1 business day following the kill. Sheep must be registered within 14 business days following the kill or 7 days of the close of the season. Bison taken in WMUs 536 and 539 must be registered within 5 business days of the kill. If an animal is exported, it must first be registered. Persons registering goat, sheep, bison, cougar, bobcat and wolf are required to provide the following information:

- species and sex of the animal,
- date and location of the kill.

As part of the registration process, trophy sheep horns will be fitted with a permanent identification marker. Other animals may be marked in another manner or retained for examination.

Compulsory registration provides information about the relative numbers of males, females and young in big game populations. It also provides the dates and locations of the harvest. Age structure and sex ratios provide an indication of population productivity (how many young survive to become adults) and status (increasing, decreasing or stable). The population and harvest data can then be used to determine the harvest goals or quotas for following years. This valuable information, provided by hunters, is essential for managing cougar, goat, trophy sheep and wolves in Alberta.

ATTENTION BEAR HUNTERS!

Black Bear Baiting

Baiting of black bears is permitted in the following WMUs: 320-324, 330-338, 348, 358-360, 500-507, 509, 510, 512-520, 522, 523, 526, 529-536, 539-542, and portions of WMUs 357, 521, 528 and 544. Check with local Fish and Wildlife Division offices, page 16). However, the following restrictions also apply:

a) Baiting is prohibited within 1.6 km (1 mi.) of occupied dwellings. Owners and occupants of dwellings are exempt from this restriction if they have permission to bait from the owners or occupants of all other dwellings within 1.6 km (1 mi.) of the bait. Other persons may also bait within 1.6 km (1 mi.) of an occupied dwelling if the bait has been authorized in writing by the owners or occupants of that dwelling and all other dwellings within 1.6 km (1 mi.) of the bait.

b) Baiting is prohibited within 1.6 km (1 mi.) of provincial parks that are not designated as Wildland Provincial Parks, provincial and forest recreation areas and some industrial sites.

c) Each bait site must have a readily observable sign legibly showing the owner's name, WIN, Big Game Outfitter-guide Permit number, or Big Game Guide Designation Number.

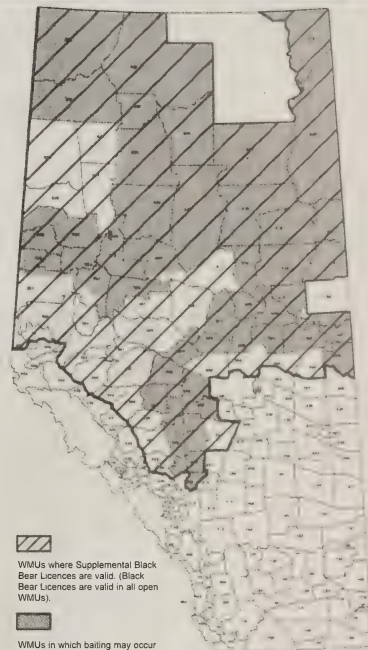
d) Each bait must be posted with surrounding signs to warn other people of its presence.

e) Baiting is restricted to the open season and the preceding two weeks in each specific WMU. Contact a Fish and Wildlife Division office (page

16) for legal land descriptions or more information. Hunters are reminded that Alberta's *Environmental Protection and Enhancement Act*, *Livestock Diseases Act* and the *Public Health Act* apply to baiting situations. Any livestock dying other than through proper slaughter for human consumption must be disposed of in prescribed ways and may not be used for baiting bears. Containers or wrappings made of paper, cardboard, plastic or other materials should not be left at bait sites. For the safety of others, baits should not be placed near active work sites (e.g., tree planting locations) and all bait sites must be cleaned immediately after the bear season.

Supplemental Black Bear Licences

Supplemental Black Bear Licences are available in the following WMUs: 224, 250, 258, 260, 320-360, 429, 445, 500-544 and 841.



ATTENTION WOLF HUNTERS!

- Setting out bait for the purpose of hunting wolves is lawful **except** during a spring black bear season where the use of bait for hunting black bear is not allowed.
- Where/when there is an open spring black bear season and baiting for black bear is allowed, wolf baits must be signed/posted in the same manner as black bear baits. This requirement to sign/post wolf baits is not in effect in other circumstances where wolf baits are lawfully set.

WMUs where Supplemental Black Bear Licences are valid (Black Bear Licences are valid in all open WMUs).

WMUs in which baiting may occur (baiting is permitted only in portions of WMUs 357, 521, 528 and 544).

ATTENTION BEAR AND COUGAR HUNTERS!

Trichinosis – To prevent possible trichinosis, a parasitic infection, bear and cougar meat should be thoroughly cooked before it is consumed by humans or pets.



Prairie WMUs (100 Series)

Alberta

Sunday hunting for big game is prohibited in Prairie WMUs (100 Series).

Archery Only Seasons are those where only a bow and arrow may be used to hunt.

General Seasons are those where either a firearm, cross-bow or a bow and arrow may be used.

■ Indicates seasons that apply only to hunters with applicable Special Licences. Refer to the 2008 Alberta Hunting Draws booklet for details.

Species	Type	SEASON		WMUs
		Archery Only	General	
White-tailed Deer ¹	Antlered	S3 - N4	(Wed – Sat only) N5 - N8 N12 - N15 N19 - N22 N26 - N29	102, 104, 106, 108, 110, 112, 116, 118, 119, 124, 128, 130, 132, 134, 136, 138, 140, 142, 144, 148, 152, 156, 158, 160, 164
		S3 - O31	N1 - N30	166
	Antlerless	S3 - N4	■ (Wed – Sat only) N5 - N8 N12 - N15 N19 - N22 N26 - N29	102, 104, 106, 108, 110, 112, 116, 118, 119, 124, 128, 130, 132, 134, 136, 138, 140, 142, 144, 148, 152, 156, 158, 160, 164
		S3 - O31	■ N1 - N30	166
	Antlered and Antlerless	S3 - O14 N1 - N4	O15 – O31 (Primitive Weapon – muzzleloader, shotgun, cross-bow, bow & arrow)	150, 151, 162, 163
			(Wed – Sat only) N5 - N8 N12 - N15 N19 - N22 N26 - N29	
Mule Deer	Antlered and Antlerless	S3 - N4	■ (Wed – Sat only) N5 - N8 N12 - N15 N19 - N22 N26 - N29	102, 104, 106, 110, 112, 116, 118, 119, 124, 132, 134, 136, 138, 140, 142, 144, 148, 152, 156, 158, 160, 164
		S3 - O14 N1 - N4	■ O15 – O31 ² (Primitive Weapon – muzzleloader, shotgun, cross-bow, bow & arrow)	150, 151, 162, 163
			■ (Wed – Sat only) N5 - N8 N12 - N15 N19 - N22 N26 - N29	
		S3 - O31	■ N1 - N30	166
	Antlered	O1 - N4	■ (Wed – Sat only) N5 - N8 N12 - N15 N19 - N22 N26 - N29	108, 128, 130
	Antlerless	S3 - N4	■ (Wed – Sat only) N5 - N8 N12 - N15 N19 - N22 N26 - N29	108, 128, 130

Species	Type	SEASON		WMUs
		Archery Only	General	
Moose	Antlered and Antlerless	■ S3 - O31	■ N1 - N30	156, 158, 160, 162, 163, 164, 166
Elk	Antlered and Antlerless		■ S3 - S23 ■ S24 - O8 ■ O9 - O23	102
			■ S3 - S30 ■ O1 - O24 ■ O25 - N16 ■ N17 - D20	104, 108, (148, 150, 151)

Additional hunting opportunities in the Prairie WMUs:

- Cypress Hills Elk Special Licence, Antelope Archery Special Licence, Non-trophy Antelope Special Licence and Trophy Antelope Special Licence. Refer to page 59 for season dates or to the **2008 Alberta Hunting Draws** booklet for further details.
- Cypress Hills Elk Archery Licence. Holders of this licence may kill 1 elk, either antlered or antlerless, with a bow and arrow in WMUs 116, 118 and 119 during the archery season, S3 - O18.

The Supplemental Antlerless White-tailed Deer Licence is valid in WMUs 150, 151, 162 and 163. The 2nd tag will be valid in WMUs 150, 151, 162 and 163.

Archery hunters can hunt antlered and antlerless mule deer under the authority of a Mule Deer Licence during the primitive weapon seasons.

BIG GAME SEASONS



Parkland WMUs (200 Series & 728, 730, 936)

Alberta

Archery Only Seasons are those where only a bow and arrow may be used to hunt.

General Seasons are those where either a firearm, cross-bow or a bow and arrow may be used.

- Indicates seasons that apply only to hunters with applicable Special Licences. Refer to the 2008 Alberta Hunting Draws booklet for details.

Sunday hunting for big game is prohibited in WMUs 728, 730 and 936.

Species	Type	SEASON		WMUs
		Archery Only	General	
White-tailed Deer ¹	Antlered and Antlerless	S3 - O31	N1 - N30	202, 203, 204, 206, 208, 214, 216, 220, 221, 222, 224, 226, 228, 230, 232, 238, 240, 242, 244, 246, 250, 252, 254, 258, 260
		S3 - N30		212, 248
		O17 - O31	N9 - N30	936 ²
		S3 - O14	O15 - O31 (Primitive Weapon – muzzleloader, shotgun, cross-bow, bow & arrow) N1 - N30	200, 234, 236, 256
	Antlered	S3 - N4	(Wed – Sat only) N5 - N8 N12 - N15 N19 - N22 N26 - N29	210
	Antlerless	S3 - N4	■ (Wed – Sat only) N5 - N8 N12 - N15 N19 - N22 N26 - N29	210
Mule Deer	Antlered and Antlerless	S3 - O31	■ N1 - N30	202, 203, 204, 206, 208, 214, 216, 220, 221, 222, 224, 226, 228, 230, 232, 238, 240, 242, 244, 246, 252, 254, 258, 260

Big Game Seasons in PARKLAND WMUs continued next page

Species	Type	SEASON		WMUs
		Archery Only	General	
Mule Deer	Antlered and Antlerless	S3 - N4	■ (Wed - Sat only) N5 - N8 N12 - N15 N19 - N22 N26 - N29	210
		S3 - O31		234
	Antlered	S3 - O14	■ O15 - O31 ¹¹ (Primitive Weapon - muzzleloader, shotgun, cross-bow, bow & arrow)	200, 236, 256
			■ N1 - N30	
	Antlered Non-resident and Non-resident Alien		O15 - O31 ¹² (Primitive Weapon ¹² - muzzleloader, shotgun, cross-bow, bow & arrow)	234
			N1 - D20 ¹²	
	Antlerless	S3 - O14 ⁹	O15 - O31 ¹⁰ (Primitive Weapon - muzzleloader, shotgun, cross-bow, bow & arrow)	200, 236, 256
			N1 - N30 ¹⁰	
	Antlerless		O15 - O31 ¹⁰ (Primitive Weapon - muzzleloader, shotgun, cross-bow, bow & arrow)	234
			N1 - D20 ¹⁰	
	Antlered and Antlerless	S3 - N30		212, 248
	Antlered	S3 - O31	■ N1 - N30	250
Moose	Antlered and Antlerless	■ S3 - O31	■ N1 - N30	200, 202, 203, 204, 206, 208, 210, 214, 216, 220, 221, 222, 224, 226, 228, 230, 232, 234, 236, 238, 240, 242, 244, 246, 250, 252, 254, 256, 258, 260
		S3 - N30		212, 248
			■ N27 - D13 ³	728, 730
		■ O17 - O31	■ N1 - N23	936 ²
	Antlerless		■ (Mon. - Fri. only) O25 - D7 ⁴	248 (Strathcona County portion only)
	Antlerless (calf only)		■ N27 - D13 ³	728, 730
Elk	Antlered and Antlerless	S3 - N30		212, 248
			■ N27 - D13 ³	728, 730
		■ O17 - O31	■ N1 - N23	936 ²
		S3 - O31	■ N1 - D20 and J12 - F21, 2009	(200, 202, 203, 232, 234)
	Antlered (3-point or larger) ⁵	S3 - O24	O25 - N30	214
		S3 - O31	N1 - N30	216, 221, 224
	Antlerless	S3 - O31	■ N1 - D20	224
		S3 - O24	■ O25 - N20 ■ N21 - D20	214

Big Game Seasons in PARKLAND WMUs continued next page

Species	Type	SEASON		WMUs
		Archery Only	General	
Elk	Antlerless	S3 - O31	■ N1 - N25 ■ N26 - D20	216, 221
			■ D1 - D20 Mon. - Fri. only (Primitive Weapon – muzzleloader, shotgun, cross-bow, bow & arrow)	212
Black Bear ⁶	Fall 2008	S3 - N30		212
			S3 - N30	200, 202, 203, 204, 206, 208, 214, 216, 220, 221, 222, 224, 226, 228, 230, 232, 234, 236, 238, 240, 242, 244, 246, 250, 252, 254, 256, 258, 260
	Spring 2009 ⁷	Ap1 - Ma31		212
			Ap1 - Ma31	200, 202, 203, 204, 206, 208, 214, 216, 220, 221, 222, 224, 226, 228, 230, 232, 234, 236, 238, 240, 242, 244, 246, 250, 252, 254, 256, 258, 260
Cougar ⁸	Not Applicable		D1 - F28	216

¹ The Supplemental Antlerless White-tailed Deer Licence is valid in WMUs 200-208, 214, 216, 220-246 and 250-260. The 2nd tag will only be valid in WMUs 234, 236, 256, 258 and 260.

² Hunters (including bowhunters) require a Firearms Discharge Permit to hunt in WMU 936. Self-registration discharge permits are no longer available. Hunters must contact the Cooking Lake/Blackfoot Grazing, Wildlife and Recreation Area office at **780-922-3293** for information on requirements to obtain the discharge permit. In WMU 936, vehicle access is permitted to the Staging Areas only. Horses are permitted only on designated trails and in open pastures. General area access is by muscular power only (Bicycle or Walking).

³ From N27 - N29, this season is open only by means of archery, cross-bow or muzzleloader.

⁴ This season is open only by means of archery, cross-bow, muzzleloader or shotgun.

⁵ See page 38 for descriptions of 3-point or larger elk.

⁶ The Supplemental Black Bear Licence is valid in WMU 224, 250, 258 and 260.

⁷ The spring 2009 season requires a new year licence.

⁸ The cougar season in specific WMUs may close prior to the closing date on this table. There is a male quota and a female quota. If either the male quota or the female quota for those WMUs is reached the season will remain open until the other quota is filled. Before hunting cougars in any WMU, hunters must ensure that the season in that WMU remains open, by calling the toll-free cougar hotline (1-800-661-3729) and listening to the message listing current closures. The hotline is updated regularly, and, by calling after 4:30 p.m., hunters can confirm which units will be open the next day.

⁹ This season applies to licence holders of a Mule Deer Licence and/or a Supplemental Antlerless Mule Deer Licence.

¹⁰ This season applies to licence holders of a Supplemental Antlerless Mule Deer Licence.

¹¹ Archery hunters can hunt antlered mule deer under the authority of a Mule Deer Licence during the primitive weapon season.

¹² These seasons are only valid for hunters who have obtained an Antlered Mule Deer Special Licence through an Outfitter-guide.

Additional hunting opportunities in the Parkland WMUs:

- Antlerless Deer (WMUs 212 & 248) Licence. Holders of this licence may kill two antlerless deer, either white-tailed deer or mule deer, with a bow and arrow (but not a cross-bow) in WMUs 212 and 248 during the archery-only season, S3 – N30.
- Foothills Deer Licence. Holders of this licence may kill 2 antlerless deer, either white-tailed deer or mule deer, with a bow and arrow, cross-bow, shotgun, or muzzleloader in WMU 212 on the following dates: D1 – D20 (Monday to Friday only). When hunting, they must carry written permission from the landowner involved.
- WMU 212 Antlerless Elk Archery Licence. Holders of this licence may kill 1 antlerless elk with a bow and arrow (but not a cross-bow) in WMU 212 during the archery only season, S3 – N30.
- Camp Wainwright Deer Special Licence. Refer to page 59 for season dates or the *2008 Alberta Hunting Draws* booklet for further details.
- Strathcona White-tailed Deer Licence. Holders of this licence may kill **three** white-tailed deer, only 1 of which may be antlered, with a bow and arrow, cross-bow, muzzleloader or shotgun in that portion of WMU 248 within the Counties of Strathcona and Leduc only from Mondays to Fridays between the following dates: O25 – D7. Information about this hunt is available from the Fish and Wildlife Division district office in Edmonton and from Strathcona County Hall, 2001 Sherwood Drive, Sherwood Park.

Foothills WMUs (300 Series)



Archery Only Seasons are those where only a bow and arrow may be used to hunt.

General Seasons are those where either a firearm, cross-bow or a bow and arrow may be used.

■ Indicates seasons that apply only to hunters with applicable Special Licences. Refer to the 2008 Alberta Hunting Draws booklet for details.

Species	Type	SEASON		WMUs
		Archery Only	General	
White-tailed Deer ¹	Antlered and Antlerless	S3 - O31	N1 - N30	310, 312, 314, 322, 324, 332, 334, 336, 337, 338, 348
		S3 - O24	O25 - N30	300, 302, 303, 304, 305, 306, 308
		A25 - S16	S17 - N30	326, 328, 330, 339, 340, 342, 344, 346, 347, 349, 350, 351, 352, 353, 354, 355, 356, 357, 360
	Antlered	A25 - S23	S24 - N30	316
		A25 - S16	S17 - N30	358, 359
		S3 - O31	N1 - N30	318, 320
	Antlerless	A25 - S16	N1 - N7	358, 359
		A25 - S23	N1 - N30	316
		S3 - O31	N1 - N7	318, 320
Mule Deer	Antlered and Antlerless	S3 - O31	■ N1 - N30	310, 312, 314, 318, 320, 322, 324, 332, 334, 336, 337, 348
		S3 - O24	■ O25 - N30	300, 302, 303, 304, 305, 306, 308
		A25 - S16	■ S17 - N30	326, 346, 358
	Antlered	A25 - S16	S17 - N30	339, 340, 342, 344, 347, 349, 350, 351, 352, 353, 354, 355, 356
		A25 - S23	S24 - N30	316
		A25 - S16	■ S17 - N30	328, 330, 357, 359, 360
		S3 - O31	■ N1 - N30	338
	Antlerless	A25 - S16	■ S17 - D20	357, 359, 360
Moose	Antlered and Antlerless	S3 - O31	■ N1 - N30	316, 337
		■ S3 - O31	■ N1 - N30	310, 312, 314, 318, 320, 322, 324, 332, 334, 336
	Antlered	A25 - S23	■ S24 - O31 ■ N1 - N30	339, 340, 342, 344, 346, 347, 349, 350, 351, 352, 353, 354, 355, 356, 357, 358, 359, 360
		■ S3 - O31	■ N1 - N30	348
		S3 - O31	■ N1 - N30	338
		■ S3 - O24	■ O25 - N30	300, 302, 303, 304, 305, 306, 308
		■ A25 - S23	■ S24 - O31 ■ N1 - N30	326, 328, 330
	Antlerless	A25 - S23	■ S24 - N30	352, 353*, 355
		■ A25 - S23	■ N1 - N30	357
	Antlerless (calf only)	A25 - S23	■ S24 - N30	354
		■ A25 - S23	■ N1 - N30	359, 360

Big Game Seasons in FOOTHILLS WMUs continued on page

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The Genesee Generating Station is pleased to announce the expansion of the bowhunting program on EPCOR-owned lands. The program, in partnership with the "Hunting for Tomorrow Foundation", is open to all eligible hunters. There are no costs to participate, but there are specific rules all participants must adhere to.

Public access to EPCOR's Genesee Generating Station land is only permitted through the Hunting for Tomorrow program.

The mentorship bowhunting program is also still active. This program pairs youth participants and first time hunters with a qualified mentor to receive one-on-one bowhunting instruction and opportunities.

Genesee staff can be on the land 24-hours a day and are at risk if you hunt in unauthorized areas. Please respect signage.

*Please protect yourself and others.
We appreciate your cooperation.*

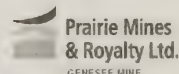
The "Hunting for Tomorrow Foundation" administers all hunting on EPCOR land. For more information or to apply to hunt at Genesee contact:

Kelly Semple, Hunting for Tomorrow

Tel. 780-462-2444

website: www.huntingfortomorrow.com

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Species	Type	SEASON		WMUs
		Archery Only	General	
Elk	Antlered (3-point or larger) ²	A25 - S16	S17 - N30	326, 328, 330, 339, 340, 342, 344, 346, 347, 349, 350, 351, 352, 353, 354, 355, 356, 357, 358, 359, 360
		S3 - O24	O25 - N30	302, 303, 304, 305, 306, 308, 310, 312, 314
		S3 - O31	N1 - N30	316, 318, 320, 322, 324, 332, 334, 336, 337, 338, 348
	Antlerless	A25 - S16	■ S17 - D20	340, 342, 344*, 357, 358, 359, 360
		A25 - S16	■ S17 - N30	330, 352, 353, 354, 355, 356
		S3 - O24	■ O25 - D20	302, 303, 304, 305, 306, 308, 310
		S3 - O31	■ N1 - D20	334, 336, 337
		S3 - O31	■ N1 - N25 ■ N26 - D20	318, 320, 322, 324, 332, 338*, 348
		S3 - O24	■ O25 - N20 ■ N21 - D20	312, 314
		A25 - S16	■ S17 - N25 ■ N26 - D20	346
Trophy Sheep ³	Resident		A25 - O31	326, 328 ⁴
			S3 - O31	302 ⁴ , 303, 306, 308
Black Bear ^{5,6}	Fall 2008	A25 - S2	S3 - N30	351, 353, 354, 355, 356, 357, 358, 359, 360
		A25 - S16	S17 - N30	326, 328, 330, 339, 340, 342, 344, 346, 347, 349, 350, 352
		S3 - S23	S24 - N30	300, 302, 303, 304, 305, 306, 308, 310, 312, 314
			S3 - N30	316, 318, 320, 322, 324, 332, 334, 336, 337, 338, 348
	Spring 2009 ⁷		Ap1 - Ma15	300, 302, 303, 304, 305, 306, 308, 310, 312, 314
			Ap1 - Ma31	316, 318, 320, 322, 324, 326, 328, 330, 332, 334, 336, 337, 338, 339, 340, 342, 344, 346, 347, 348, 349, 350, 352
			Ap17 - Ju15	351, 353, 354, 355, 356, 357, 358, 359, 360
Cougar ⁸	Not Applicable		D1 - F28	300, 302, 303, 304, 305, 306, 308, 310, 312, 314, 316, 318, 320, 322, 324, 326, 328, 330, 332, 334, 336, 337, 338, 339, 340, 342, 344, 346, 347, 348, 349, 350, 352, 353, 354, 355, 356

* The draw season for antlerless moose in WMU 353 and antlerless elk in WMUs 338 and 344 applies only to a portion of the WMU.

¹ The Supplemental Antlerless White-tailed Deer Licence is valid in WMUs 310, 312, 314, 322-357 and 360. The 2nd tag will only be valid in WMUs 334-357 and 360.

² See page 38 for descriptions of 3-point or larger elk.

³ Hunting sheep is prohibited in several areas. See Restricted Areas for Trophy and Non-trophy Sheep on page 35.

⁴ WMUs 302 and 328 are open only for full-curl rams.

⁵ The baiting of black bears is permitted in WMUs 320, 322, 324, 330, 332, 334, 336, 337, 338, 348, 358, 359, 360, and portions of 357.

⁶ The Supplemental Black Bear Licence is valid in WMUs 320-360.

⁷ The spring 2009 season requires a new year licence.

⁸ The cougar season in specific WMUs may close prior to the closing date on this table. There is a male quota and a female quota. If either the male quota or the female quota for those WMUs is reached the season will remain open until the other quota is filled. Before hunting cougars in any WMU, hunters must ensure that the season in that WMU remains open, by calling the toll-free cougar hotline (1-800-661-3729) and listening to the message listing current closures. The hotline is updated regularly, and, by calling after 4:30 p.m., hunters can confirm which units will be open the next day.

Additional hunting opportunities in the Foothills WMUs:

- WMU 300 Elk Special Licence and Non-trophy Sheep Special Licence. Refer to page 59 for season dates or to the *2008 Alberta Hunting Draws* booklet for further details.

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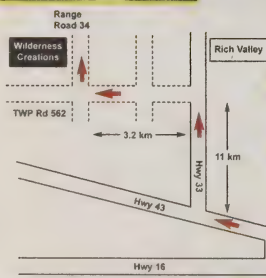
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	DATE	Calgary		Coronation		Edmonton		Ft. McMurray		High
		Rise	Set	Rise	Set	Rise	Set	Rise	Set	
M D T	Sept. 1	6:50	8:21	6:38	8:12	6:44	8:22	6:29	8:20	6:48
	Sept. 5	6:57	8:12	6:45	8:03	6:51	8:13	6:37	8:09	6:57
	Sept. 10	7:04	8:01	6:53	7:51	7:00	8:01	6:47	7:56	7:08
	Sept. 15	7:12	7:49	7:01	7:39	7:08	7:48	6:58	7:42	7:19
	Sept. 20	7:20	7:38	7:09	7:28	7:17	7:36	7:08	7:29	7:30
	Sept. 25	7:28	7:27	7:18	7:16	7:26	7:24	7:18	7:18	7:41
	Sept. 30	7:36	7:15	7:26	7:04	7:35	7:12	7:28	7:02	7:52
	Oct. 1	7:38	7:13	7:28	7:02	7:37	7:09	7:30	6:59	7:54
	Oct. 5	7:44	7:04	7:34	6:53	7:44	7:00	7:38	6:48	8:03
	Oct. 10	7:52	6:53	7:43	6:41	7:53	6:48	7:49	6:35	8:15
	Oct. 15	8:01	6:43	7:52	6:30	8:02	6:36	7:59	6:22	8:26
M S T	Oct. 20	8:09	6:32	8:00	6:20	8:11	6:25	8:10	6:09	8:38
	Oct. 25	8:18	6:22	8:09	6:09	8:21	6:14	8:21	5:57	8:49
	Oct. 30	8:26	6:13	8:18	6:00	8:31	6:04	8:32	5:46	9:01
	Nov. 1	8:30	6:09	8:22	5:56	8:34	6:00	8:36	5:41	9:06
	Nov. 5	7:37	5:03	7:29	4:49	7:42	4:52	7:45	4:32	8:16
	Nov. 10	7:45	4:55	7:38	4:41	7:52	4:44	7:56	4:22	8:28
	Nov. 15	7:54	4:48	7:47	4:33	8:01	4:36	8:07	4:13	8:39
	Nov. 20	8:02	4:42	7:56	4:27	8:10	4:29	8:17	4:05	8:51
	Nov. 25	8:10	4:37	8:04	4:22	8:19	4:23	8:27	3:58	9:01
	Nov. 30	8:17	4:33	8:11	4:18	8:27	4:19	8:36	3:52	9:11
	Dec. 1	8:19	4:32	8:13	4:17	8:28	4:18	8:38	3:51	9:13
M S T	Dec. 5	8:24	4:31	8:18	4:15	8:34	4:16	8:44	3:48	9:20
	Dec. 10	8:29	4:29	8:24	4:14	8:40	4:14	8:51	3:46	9:28
	Dec. 15	8:34	4:30	8:28	4:14	8:45	4:14	8:56	3:45	9:33
	Dec. 20	8:37	4:31	8:32	4:16	8:48	4:16	9:00	3:47	9:37
	Dec. 25	8:39	4:34	8:34	4:19	8:50	4:19	9:02	3:50	9:39
	Dec. 30	8:40	4:39	8:34	4:23	8:50	4:23	9:02	3:55	9:39
	Jan. 1	8:40	4:41	8:34	4:25	8:50	4:25	9:02	3:57	9:38
	Jan. 5	8:39	4:45	8:33	4:30	8:49	4:30	9:00	4:03	9:36
	Jan. 10	8:37	4:52	8:31	4:37	8:46	4:38	8:56	4:11	9:31
	Jan. 15	8:33	4:59	8:27	4:44	8:42	4:46	8:50	4:20	9:25
	Jan. 20	8:28	5:07	8:22	4:53	8:36	4:54	8:44	4:30	9:17
	Jan. 25	8:22	5:16	8:16	5:01	8:30	5:04	8:36	4:41	9:08
	Jan. 30	8:15	5:24	8:08	5:10	8:22	5:13	8:27	4:52	8:58
M S T	Feb. 1	8:12	5:28	8:05	5:14	8:18	5:17	8:23	4:56	8:54
	Feb. 5	8:06	5:35	7:59	5:22	8:11	5:25	8:14	5:05	8:45
	Feb. 10	7:58	5:44	7:50	5:30	8:02	5:35	8:03	5:17	8:33
	Feb. 15	7:48	5:53	7:40	5:40	7:52	5:45	7:52	5:28	8:20
	Feb. 20	7:39	6:02	7:30	5:50	7:41	5:55	7:40	5:40	8:07
	Feb. 25	7:28	6:11	7:19	5:59	7:30	6:05	7:27	5:51	7:54

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Hinton	Lac La Biche	Lethbridge	Peace River	Red Deer	Whitecourt
Set	Set	Set	Set	Set	Set
06 8:38	6:36	8:19	6:47	8:14	6:54
07 8:29	6:43	8:09	6:53	8:05	7:02
16 8:17	6:52	7:56	7:01	7:54	7:12
25 8:05	7:01	7:43	7:08	7:44	7:22
32 7:52	7:11	7:30	7:15	7:33	7:32
33 7:40	7:20	7:18	7:23	7:22	7:41
51 7:28	7:29	7:05	7:30	7:11	7:51
53 7:26	7:31	7:02	7:32	7:09	7:53
00 7:16	7:39	6:52	7:38	7:00	8:02
09 7:04	7:48	6:40	7:46	6:50	8:12
18 6:53	7:58	6:28	7:54	6:39	8:22
27 6:42	8:08	6:16	8:02	6:30	8:33
37 6:31	8:18	6:05	8:10	6:20	8:43
46 6:21	8:28	5:54	8:18	6:11	8:54
50 6:17	8:32	5:50	8:21	6:08	8:58
58 5:09	7:40	4:42	7:28	5:01	8:07
57 5:00	7:50	4:33	7:36	4:54	8:18
17 4:53	8:00	4:25	7:44	4:48	8:28
26 4:46	8:10	4:17	7:52	4:42	8:38
34 4:40	8:19	4:11	7:59	4:37	8:48
42 4:36	8:27	4:06	8:06	4:34	8:57
44 4:36	8:29	4:05	8:08	4:33	8:59
49 4:33	8:35	4:03	8:13	4:32	9:05
55 4:31	8:41	4:01	8:18	4:31	9:12
00 4:31	8:46	4:01	8:22	4:31	9:17
04 4:33	8:49	4:02	8:26	4:33	9:20
06 4:36	8:51	4:05	8:28	4:36	9:22
06 4:40	8:52	4:10	8:29	4:40	9:22
06 4:43	8:51	4:12	8:28	4:42	9:22
04 4:47	8:50	4:18	8:28	4:46	9:20
02 4:55	8:47	4:25	8:26	4:53	9:16
57 5:03	8:42	4:33	8:22	5:00	9:11
52 5:11	8:36	4:43	8:18	5:07	9:05
45 5:21	8:29	4:52	8:13	5:15	8:57
38 5:30	8:21	5:03	8:06	5:24	8:48
34 5:34	8:17	5:07	8:03	5:27	8:44
27 5:42	8:10	5:15	7:57	5:34	8:36
18 5:52	7:59	5:25	7:49	5:42	8:25
08 6:02	7:49	5:36	7:40	5:51	8:14
57 6:12	7:38	5:46	7:31	5:59	8:02
46 6:21	7:26	5:57	7:21	6:08	7:50

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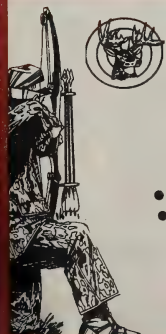
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Mountain WMUs (400 Series)

Archery Only Seasons are those where only a bow and arrow may be used to hunt.

General Seasons are those where either a firearm, cross-bow or a bow and arrow may be used.

■ Indicates seasons that apply only to hunters with applicable Special Licences. Refer to the 2008 Alberta Hunting Draws booklet for details.

Sunday hunting for big game is prohibited in WMUs 400 – 414, except during the month of November.

Species	Type	SEASON		WMUs
		Archery Only	General	
White-tailed Deer ¹	Antlered and Antlerless	S3 - S23	■ S24 - N30	404, 406, 408
		S3 - N30		410
		A25 - S16	S17 - N30	436, 437, 438, 439, 440, 441, 442, 444, 445, 446
	Antlered	A25 - S16	S17 - N30	412, 414, 416, 417, 418, 420, 422, 426, 428, 429, 430, 432, 434
		S3 - S23	S24 - N30	400, 402
	Antlerless	A25 - S16	N1 - N30	412, 414, 416, 417, 418, 420, 422, 426, 428, 430, 432, 434
		S3 - S23	N1 - N15	400, 402
		A25 - S16	N1 - N15	429
	Antlered and Antlerless	S3 - S23	■ S24 - N30	400, 402, 404, 406, 408
		S3 - N30		410
Mule Deer	Antlered	A25 - S16	S17 - N30	412, 414, 432, 440, 441, 442, 444, 445, 446
		A25 - S16	■ S17 - N30	416, 417, 418, 420, 422, 426, 428, 429, 430, 434, 436, 437, 438, 439
	Antlered and Antlerless	S3 - S23	■ S24 - N30	404, 406
		S3 - N30		410
Moose	Antlered and Antlerless	S3 - S23	■ S24 - N30	404, 406
		S3 - N30		410
	Antlered	A25 - S23	■ S24 - O31	412, 414
		A25 - S23	■ S24 - N30	416, 417, 418, 420, 422, 426, 428, 430, 432, 434, 436, 437, 438, 439, 440, 441, 442, 444, 445, 446
		■ A25 - S23	■ S24 - O31 ■ N1 - N30	429
		S3 - S23	■ S24 - N30	408
		■ S3 - S16	■ S17 - N30	400, 402
Elk	Antlered and Antlerless	S3 - N30		410
	Antlered (6-point or larger) ² and Antlerless	S3 - S16	■ S17 - N30	404, 406, 408
	Antlered (6-point or larger) ²	A25 - S16	■ S17 - N30	416, 417, 418, 420, 422, 428, 430
		A25 - S16	S17 - N30	412, 414, 426, 432, 434, 436, 437, 438, 439, 440, 441, 442, 444, 445, 446
	Antlered (3-point or larger) ²	A25 - S16	S17 - N30	429
		S3 - S16	S17 - N30	400, 402
	Antlerless	S3 - S16	■ S17 - N30	400, 402
		A25 - S16	■ S17 - N30	438*, 439, 441*, 444*
Goat	Not Applicable		■ S10 - O31	440, 442, 444
			■ S17 - O31	400

Species	Type	SEASON		WMUs
		Archery Only	General	
Trophy Sheep ⁵	Resident	S3 - O31		410
		■ S3 - N30		410
			■ A25 - S23 ■ S24 - O31	437
			■ N1 - N10 ■ N11 - N20 ■ N21 - N30	438 ¹¹
			A25 - O31	412, 414, 416, 417, 418, 420, 422, 426, 428, 429 ⁶ , 430, 432, 434, 436, 438, 439, 440, 441, 442, 444 ³ , 445
			■ A25 - O31	444 ⁴ , 446
			S3 - O31	400 ⁶ , 402, 404, 406, 408
		■ N1 - N30		408 (west of Highway 40)
	Non-resident and Non-resident Alien ⁷	■ S3 - N30		410
			■ S1 - O15	412, 414, 416, 417, 418, 420, 422, 426, 428, 430, 432, 434, 436, 438, 439, 440, 441, 442, 444 ³ , 445
Black Bear ⁸	Fall 2008	A25 - S2	S3 - N30	412, 414, 416, 417, 418, 420, 422, 426, 428, 430, 432, 434, 436, 437, 438, 439, 440, 441, 442, 444, 445, 446
		A25 - S16	S17 - N30	429
		S3 - N30		410
			S3 - N30	400, 402, 404, 406, 408
	Spring 2009 ⁹	Ap1 - Ma31		410
			Ap1 - Ma15	400, 402, 404, 406, 408
			Ap1 - Ma31	429
			Ap17 - Ju15	412, 414, 416, 417, 418, 420, 422, 426, 428, 430, 432, 434, 436, 437, 438, 439, 440, 441, 442, 444, 445, 446
Cougar ¹⁰	Not Applicable	D1 - F28		410
			D1 - F28	400, 402, 404, 406, 408, 412, 414, 416, 417, 418, 420, 422, 426, 428, 429, 430, 432, 434, 436, 437, 438, 439, 440, 441, 442, 444, 445, 446

* The draw season for antlerless elk in WMU 438, 441 and 444 applies only to a portion of the WMU. See draw booklet for maps.

1 The Supplemental Antlerless White-tailed Deer Licence is valid in WMUs 436-446. The 2nd tag will only be valid in WMUs 437-446.

2 See page 38 for descriptions of 3-point or larger elk and 6-point or larger elk.

3 The season for trophy sheep in WMU 444 applies only to the portion south of the Beaverdam Road.

4 The draw season for trophy sheep in WMU 444 applies only to the portion north of the Beaverdam Road.

5 Hunting of sheep is prohibited in several areas. See Restricted Areas for trophy and non-trophy sheep on page 35.

6 WMUs 400 and 429 are open only for full-curl rams.

7 These seasons are only valid for hunters who have obtained Trophy Sheep Special Licences through a Class S Outfitter-guide or through a draw (Non-resident [Canadians] only).

8 The Supplemental Black Bear Licence is valid in WMUs 429 and 445.

9 The spring 2009 season requires a new year licence.

10 The cougar season in specific WMUs may close prior to the closing date on this table. There is a male quota and a female quota. If either the male quota or the female quota for those WMUs is reached the season will remain open until the other quota is filled. Before hunting cougars in any WMU, hunters must ensure that the season in that WMU remains open, by calling the toll-free cougar hotline (1-800-661-3729) and listening to the message listing current closures. The hotline is updated regularly, and, by calling after 4:30 p.m., hunters can confirm which units will be open the next day.

11 The draw season for trophy sheep is valid in Area 438C (See *2008 Alberta Hunting Draws Booklet*).

Additional hunting opportunities in the Mountain WMUs:

• Non-trophy Sheep Special Licence, Trophy Sheep Special Licence (portion of WMU 408 lying west of Highway 40 or in WMU 446 and that portion of WMU 444 north of Beaverdam Road or in WMU 438C). Refer to page 59 for season dates or to the *2008 Alberta Hunting Draws* booklet for further details.

Boreal WMUs (500 Series & 841)



Archery Only Seasons are those where only a bow and arrow may be used to hunt.

General Seasons are those where either a firearm, cross-bow or a bow and arrow may be used.

■ Indicates seasons that apply only to hunters with applicable Special Licences. Refer to the 2008 Alberta Hunting Draws booklet for details.

Bison – In the area west of highway 35 and north of the Chinchaga River and the Keg River Metis Settlement, bison is a protected species. No one is allowed to hunt bison in this area, except under the authority of a Bison Special Licence.

Species	Type	SEASON		WMUs
		Archery Only	General	
White-tailed Deer ¹	Antlered and Antlerless	S3 - O31	N1 - N30	501, 502, 503, 504, 505, 506, 507, 508, 509, 510
		A25 - A31	S1 - N30	511, 512, 514, 515, 516, 517, 518, 519, 520, 524, 525, 528, 529, 530, 531, 532, 534, 536, 539, 540, 541, 542, 544
		A25 - S16	S17 - N30	521, 523
		S3 - O14	O15 - O31 (Primitive Weapon – muzzleloader, shotgun, cross-bow, bow & arrow) N1 - N30	500
	Antlered	A25 - S16	S17 - N30	522, 526, 527, 535, 537
			S17 - N30	841
	Antlerless	A25 - S16	N1 - N7	522
			N1 - N30	841
		A25 - S16	N1 - N30	526, 527, 535, 537
Mule Deer	Antlered and Antlerless	S3 - O31	■ N1 - N30	501, 502, 504, 505, 507, 508, 509, 510
		A25 - S16	■ S17 - N30	537
	Antlered	A25 - A31	S1 - N30	511, 512, 514, 515, 516, 517, 518, 519, 520, 524, 525, 528, 529, 530, 531, 532, 534, 536, 539, 540, 541, 542, 544
		A25 - S16	■ S17 - N30	521, 522, 523, 526, 527, 535
		S3 - O31	■ N1 - N30	503, 506
			S17 - N30	841
		S3 - O14	■ O15 - O31 ¹¹ (Primitive Weapon – muzzleloader, shotgun, cross-bow, bow & arrow) ■ N1 - N30	500
	Antlerless	A25 - S16	■ S17 - D20	521, 522, 523, 526, 527
	Antlerless	S3 - O14 ⁹	O15 - O31 ¹⁰ (Primitive Weapon – muzzleloader, shotgun, cross-bow, bow & arrow) N1 - N30 ¹⁰	500
	Moose	S3 - O31	■ N1 - N30	500, 501, 502, 503, 504, 506, 509
		■ S3 - O31	■ N1 - N30	507, 508
	Antlered		■ S17 - O31 ■ N1 - N30	841

Species	Type	SEASON		WMUs
		Archery Only	General	
Moose	Antlered	A25 - S23	■ S24 - O31 ■ N1 - N30	521, 522, 523, 526, 527, 535, 537
		A25 - A31	■ S1 - O31 ■ N1 - N30	511, 512, 514, 515, 516, 519, 520, 524, 525, 528, 536, 541, 542, 544
		A25 - A31	■ S1 - O31	517, 518, 529, 530
			N1 - N30 ²	517, 518, 529, 530
		S3 - O31	■ N1 - N30	505, 510
		A25 - A31	■ S1 - N30 ³	531, 532, 534, 539, 540
	Antlerless (calf only)	S3 - O31	■ N1 - N30	505, 510
		■ A25 - S23	■ N1 - N30	521, 522, 523, 526, 527
Elk	Antlered (6-point or larger) ⁴	S3 - O31	■ N1 - N30	509
	Antlered (3-point or larger) ⁴	S3 - O31	N1 - N30	504, 505, 506, 507, 510, 511
		A25 - S16	S17 - N30	520, 521, 522, 523, 527
	Antlerless	A25 - S16	■ S17 - D20	520, 521, 522, 523, 526, 527
		S3 - O31	■ N1 - D20	504, 506, 507, 509, 510, 511
	Antlered	A25 - S16	■ S17 - N30	526
Black Bear ^{5,6}	Fall 2008	A25 - A31	S1 - N30	511, 512, 514, 515, 516, 517, 518, 519, 520, 524, 525, 528, 529, 530, 531, 532, 534, 535, 536, 537, 539, 540, 541, 542, 544
		A25 - S2	S3 - N30	521, 522, 523, 526, 527
			S3 - N30	500, 501, 502, 503, 504, 505, 506, 507, 508, 509, 510
			S17 - N30	841
	Spring 2009 ⁷		Ap1 - Ma15	841
			Ap1 - Ma31	500, 501, 502, 503, 504, 505, 506, 507, 508, 509, 510
			Ap17 - Ju15	511, 512, 514, 515, 516, 517, 518, 519, 520, 521, 522, 523, 524, 525, 526, 527, 528, 529, 530, 531, 532, 534, 535, 536, 537, 539, 540, 541, 542, 544
Cougar ⁸	Not Applicable		D1 - F28	505, 507, 509, 510

¹ The Supplemental Antlerless White-tailed Deer Licence is valid in WMUs 500-511, 514, 520, 521, 523-525, 527, 528, 534-544. The 2nd tag will only be valid in WMUs 500, 502-511, 521, 523, 541, 542 and 544.

² Hunters with Antlered Moose Special Licences obtained through a draw are not eligible to hunt during this season.

³ If hunting with an Outfitter-Guide, hunters should note these WMUs are split into two seasons: Sept. 1 – Oct. 31 or Nov. 1 – Nov. 30.

⁴ See page 38 for description of 3-point or larger elk and 6-point or larger elk.

⁵ The baiting of black bears is permitted in WMUs 500-507, 509, 510, 512-520, 522, 523, 526, 529-536, 539-542 and portions of 521, 528 and 544.

⁶ The Supplemental Black Bear Licence is valid in WMUs 500-544 and 841.

⁷ The spring 2009 season requires a new year licence.

⁸ The cougar season in specific WMUs may close prior to the closing date on this table. There is a male quota and a female quota. If either the male quota or the female quota for those WMUs is reached the season will remain open until the other quota is filled. Before hunting cougars in any WMU hunters must ensure that the season in that WMU remains open, by calling the toll-free cougar hotline (1-800-661-3729) and listening to the message listing current closures. The hotline is updated regularly, and, by calling after 4:30 p.m., hunters can confirm which units will be open the next day.

⁹ This season applies to licence holders of a Mule Deer Licence and/or a Supplemental Antlerless Mule Deer Licence.

¹⁰ This season applies to licence holders of a Supplemental Antlerless Mule Deer Licence.

¹¹ Archery hunters can hunt antlered mule deer under the authority of a Mule Deer Licence during the primitive weapon season.

ADDITIONAL SPECIAL LICENCE DRAW HUNTS

Season Dates And Locations (refer to page 15 for month abbreviations)

Non-trophy Sheep Special Licence

Areas 416, 418A*, 418B*, 420, 422A*, 426A*, 430A*, 430B*, 432, 434A*, 434B*, 437, 438A*, 438C*, 438D*, 440, 442, 444, 445A*, 445B*, 446	S3 - O31
Areas (402 - 303, 306)*, 402 - 308*, 402A*, 406A*, 406B*, 408A*, 408B*	S10 - O31
Area 410	S3 - N30

These areas comprise either a portion of one WMU or all of one WMU and a portion of an adjacent WMU. See descriptions in the *2008 Alberta Hunting Draws* booklet.

Camp Wainwright Deer Special Licence (WMUs 728 and 730)

Primitive Weapons	N27 - N29
Rifle	D1 - D3, D4 - D6, D8 - D10, D11 - D13

Antelope Archery Special Licence

WMUs 102, 104, 106, 108, 112, 116, 118, 119, 124, 128, 138, 140, 142, 144, 148, 150, 151, 152, 160, 162, 163, 164, 166	S3 - S27
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Antelope Special Licence

WMUs 138, 142, 144, 150, 151, 152, 160, 162, 163, 164, 166	S29 - O4
WMUs 102, 104, 106, 108, 112, 116, 118, 119, 124, 128, 140, 148	O20 - O25

Non-trophy Antelope Special Licence

WMUs 128, 140	O23 - O25, O27 - O29
WMUs 150, 151, 152, 160, 162, 163, 164, 166	O2 - O4, O9 - O11

Pyress Hills Elk Special Licence

WMUs 116, 118, 119 and 624	Tue., Wed., Thu., Fri. only, N4 - N28
WMUs 116, 118 and 119	Tue., Wed., Thu., Fri. only, D2, 2008 - J9, 2009

WMU 300 Elk Special Licence	S3 - O24, O25 - D24, D25 - F21, 2009
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Bison Special Licence - WMUs 536 and 539 excluding Core Bison Protection Area	J1 - F28, 2009
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Refer to the *2008 Alberta Hunting Draws* booklet for details on what seasons will be open and how to apply for special licences that will be available in the fall 2008 and spring 2009.

OTHER SPECIES

Season Dates and Locations

NOTE: It is unlawful, with the following exceptions, to allow the pelt of any furbearing animal to be wasted:

It is not legally necessary to salvage pelts of 1) furbearing animals taken in accordance with regulations authorizing control of problem wildlife, or 2) coyotes harvested, by residents, outside of public lands in the Green Area.

Black Bear - A Resident may, without a licence, hunt (but not trap) black bear from the opening of any big game season in a particular WMU to May 31, 2009, or until June 15, 2009 in WMUs where black bear seasons are open until June 15, 2009.

Non-resident or Non-resident Alien who holds a Non-resident/Non-resident Alien Wolf/Coyote Licence may hunt (but not trap) timber wolf from the opening of any big game season in a particular WMU to May 31, 2009, or until June 15, 2009 in WMUs where black bear seasons are open until June 15, 2009.

It is unlawful to use bait to hunt wolves during spring black bear seasons where baiting is not allowed for black bear (see page 43).

Coyote - A Resident may, without a licence and on land to which he or she has the right of access, hunt (but not trap) coyote at all times of the year throughout the province, except as follows:

- 1) on public lands in the Green Area, only from October 1, 2008 to February 28, 2009, and
- 2) in Camp Wainwright (WMUs 728 and 730), only from January 5, 2009 to February 28, 2009.

See page 33 for information on coyote hunting for control of livestock predation.

Subject to the exception (*) below, a Non-resident or Non-resident Alien who holds a valid Non-resident/Non-resident Alien Wolf/Coyote Licence may hunt coyote on lands to which he or she has the right of access at all times of the year throughout the province - except on public lands in the Green Area where the season is from October 1, 2008 to February 28, 2009.

*Exception: if a big game season (other than a cougar season) is open in the area he or she is hunting, then a Non-resident or Non-resident Alien who holds a big game licence may hunt coyote only in the WMU or area where their big game licence is valid.

Red Fox and Badger - A Resident may, without a licence and at all times of the year, hunt (but not trap) red fox and hunt badger on any privately owned land to which he or she has the right of access.

Bobcat - A resident may, without a licence from November 1 - February 28, 2009, hunt (but not trap) bobcat in WMUs 102, 104, 106, 108, 112, 116, 118, 119 and in the portion of WMU 110 that lies east of highway 2 and south of highway 3. All kills must be registered at a Fish and Wildlife office (see page 16).

Other Animals - Porcupine, rabbit, hare, skunk, raccoon and woodchuck may be hunted, but not trapped*, without a licence throughout the province, at all times of the year.

* The trapping of rabbit, hare, skunk and raccoon is authorized without a licence under some circumstances. Please refer to the *2008 Alberta Guide to Trapping Regulations*, available in September 2008.

Since the fall season of 2002, cross-bows are no longer "prohibited" for hunting wildlife in Alberta, although there may be federal licensing requirements. See page 20 for federal government contact information. Cross-bows may not be used to hunt big game during archery-only seasons. The only exception is for an eligible handicapped hunter who has obtained a cross-bow licence.

A Bowhunting Permit, as required by bowhunters using conventional archery equipment, is **not** required by persons who are hunting with

cross-bows.

In accordance with federal regulations, cross-bows may not be used for waterfowl hunting. Persons hunting big game with a cross-bow must use an authorized cross bow and arrow (bolt). An authorized cross-bow is one that requires 100 pounds or more of pull to draw the string or cable to its cocked position. There is no restriction on arrow length however it must have a tip as described under the heading "Bowhunting" on page 39-40.

GAME BIRD REGULATIONS

Falconry Hunting

Falconers are permitted to hunt upland game birds and migratory birds, by means of falconry, in all areas of the province except in national parks and those restricted areas identified on pages 33 through 36.

To hunt any game birds by means of falconry, a Resident holder of a Recreational Falconry Permit requires a WIN Card and a Wildlife Certificate, plus

- a Game Bird Licence to hunt grouse, partridge or ptarmigan;
- a Game Bird Licence and a Pheasant Licence to hunt pheasant, or
- a Game Bird Licence and a Federal Migratory Game Bird Hunting Permit to hunt waterfowl.

To hunt any game birds by means of falconry, a Non-resident (Canadian) hunter requires an Import permit, a WIN Card and a Wildlife Certificate, plus

- either a Game Bird Licence or 3-Day Game Bird Licence to hunt grouse, partridge or ptarmigan;
- either a Game Bird Licence or a 3-Day Game Bird Licence, and a Pheasant Licence to hunt pheasant, or
- either a Game Bird Licence or a 3-Day Game Bird Licence, and a Federal Migratory Game Bird Hunting Permit to hunt waterfowl.

To hunt any game birds by means of falconry, a Non-resident Alien hunter requires an Import permit, a WIN Card and a Wildlife Certificate, plus

- an Upland Game Bird Licence to hunt grouse, partridge or ptarmigan;
- an Upland Game Bird Licence and a Pheasant Licence to hunt pheasant, or
- a 6-Day Waterfowl Licence and a Federal Migratory Game Bird Hunting Permit to hunt waterfowl.

Seasons

The open season to hunt upland game birds by means of falconry is from August 15, 2008 to March 31, 2009 (Sundays included). Migratory game birds may be hunted by means of falconry during the designated open season for migratory birds (Sundays included) (pages 62 to 68).

Bowhunting

Hunters wishing to hunt game birds with a bow and arrow, other than a cross-bow, require a Bowhunting Permit in addition to the other applicable licences.

IN ALBERTA

SAGE GROUSE ARE PROTECTED!

Sage grouse are listed as an endangered species in Alberta. If you hunt upland game birds within the range of sage grouse, be sure your target is not a sage grouse.

Designated Pheasant Release Sites

The operation of the pheasant hatchery at Brooks was privatized in April 2000 with a non-government partnership, the Canadian Pheasant Company. For more information about the pheasant release program, please contact the Canadian Pheasant Company (403-362-4122). During the open season for male pheasants, the hunting of game birds, including pheasants, is not permitted in the following designated pheasant release sites after 2:00 p.m. on any day, except Saturdays.

WMU

- 152 Millicent Buck for Wildlife Project (NE19 and 30-20-13-W4)
- 206 Buffalo Lake Buck for Wildlife Project (9 and SW10-40-21-W4)
- 210 Bigelow Buck for Wildlife Project (3, E9, SW10 & LSD 12 and 13 of 10-34-25-W4)

Merriam's Turkey Draw

Merriam's Turkey Special Licences are issued through a draw. Licences will be valid in all of WMU 300-308, 400 and 402. The season is from May 1 to May 31, 2009 with a bag limit of one bearded Merriam's turkey per special licence holder. Hunters interested in this hunt must have applied in the draw by June 26, 2008.

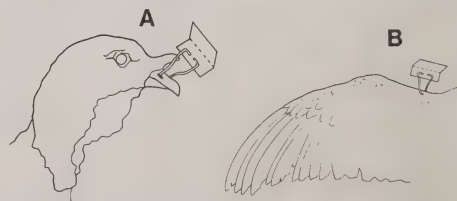
Each Merriam's turkey harvested must be tagged

- immediately after the bird is killed, and
- in the manner described below with the paper tag supplied with each licence. All instructions on the back of the paper tag must be followed.

Tags must remain affixed until the carcass is delivered to

- the usual residence of the person who killed it, and is butchered, and packaged for consumption, or
- to a premises in respect of which there is a Food Establishment Permit issued under the *Public Health Act* or Licence for the Operation of an Abattoir issued under the *Meat Inspection Act*.

Merriam's Turkey Tagging Instructions



Tagging Instructions: (A) place wire through the nares, or (B) through patagium between the tendon and the bones of the wing.

Please refer to items 2, 12 and 13 of Prohibitions, Game Bird section (page 19) for additional requirements concerning weapons and evidence of sex and species for Merriam's turkey.

West Nile Virus

Are hunters at risk of West Nile virus when handling hunter-killed birds?

Health officials advise that there is no evidence or reason to believe that there is any risk of getting West Nile virus from handling hunter-killed birds in Alberta. Free-flying birds are unlikely to contain sufficient virus to pass on an infection. In addition, the only evidence of direct transfer of West Nile virus from birds to humans without going through a mosquito are two accidental infections when lab technicians were handling heavily infected crows. Similarly, hunting dogs are not at risk when retrieving hunter-killed birds.

Hunters are advised to take precautions against being bitten by mosquitoes, which are common in wetland habitats and are active at dawn and dusk when temperatures are suitable for insect activity.

Special Hunting Areas

In WMUs 212 and 248 the hunting of game birds is only permitted with bows and arrows, cross-bows, shotguns or a falconry bird.

In WMU 410 the hunting of game birds is permitted only with bows and arrows or a falconry bird.

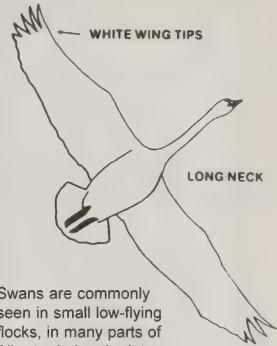
Please Remember

Federal regulations prohibit the use of lead shot or cross-bows for hunting waterfowl.

All birds are protected except the following: Starlings, Crows, Pigeons, House (English) Sparrows, Magpies, Blackbirds, Common Grackles, Brown-headed Cowbirds, Ravens (hunted on private land by residents) and any other birds for which an open season has been declared by the regulations as indicated in this summary.



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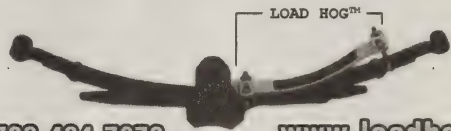
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GAME BIRD BAG LIMITS

Species	Daily Limit	Possession Limit	Species	Daily Limit	Possession Limit	Requirements
Male Pheasant	2	6	Snow Goose and Ross' Goose	20	60	(a) of which not more than five (5) may be white-fronted geese for resident and non-resident Canadians.
Ruffed Grouse	10	20	Canada Goose and White-fronted Goose	8 (a,f)	16 (b,g)	(b) of which not more than ten (10) may be white-fronted geese for resident and non-resident Canadians.
Sharp-tailed Grouse	5	10	Ducks	8 (c)	16 (d)	(c) of which not more than four (4) may be a pintail.
Ptarmigan	5	20	Common Snipe	10	20	(d) of which not more than eight (8) may be pintails.
Blue Grouse	5	10	Coot	10	20	(e) may be hunted with Special Licence only.
Spruce Grouse	10	20	Merriam's Turkey	1 (e)	1 (e)	(f) of which not more than three (3) may be white-fronted geese for non-resident aliens.
Gray Partridge	6	18				(g) of which not more than six (6) may be white-fronted geese for non-resident aliens.

GAME BIRD SEASONS

Prairie WMUs (100 Series)

See page 15 for definitions of month abbreviations used in seasons.



Species	Season	WMUs
Male Pheasants	O15 - N30	102, 104, 106, 108, 110, 112, 116, 118, 119, 124, 128, 130, 132, 134, 136, 138, 140, 142, 144, 148, 150, 151, 152, 156, 158, 160, 162, 163, 164, 166
Ruffed and Spruce Grouse	S15 - N30	108, 110, 132, 151, 152, 156, 158, 160, 162, 163, 164, 166
Sharp-tailed Grouse	O1 - O31	102, 104, 106, 108, 110, 112, 116, 118, 119, 124, 128, 130, 132, 134, 136, 138, 140, 142, 144, 148, 150, 151, 152, 156, 158, 160, 162, 163, 164, 166
Gray Partridge	S15 - N30	102, 104, 106, 108, 110, 112, 116, 118, 119, 124, 128, 130, 132, 134, 136, 138, 140, 142, 144, 148, 150, 151, 152, 156, 158, 160, 162, 163, 164, 166
Ducks, Coots, Common Snipe, White-fronted and Canada Geese and Snow and Ross' Geese (including falconry hunting)	S8 - D23	102, 104, 106, 108, 110, 112, 116, 118, 119, 124, 128, 130, 132, 134, 136, 138, 140, 142, 144, 148, 150, 151, 152, 156, 158, 160, 162, 163, 164, 166

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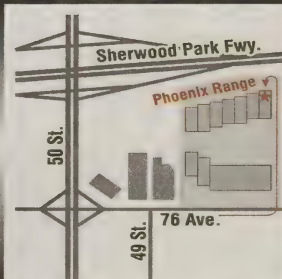
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Parkland WMUs (200 Series & 728, 730, 936)

See page 15 for definitions of month abbreviations used in seasons.



Species	Season	WMUs
Male Pheasants	O15 - N15	200, 202, 203, 204, 206, 208, 210, 212, 214, 216, 220, 221, 222, 224, 226, 228, 230, 232,
Ruffed and Spruce Grouse	S15 - N30	234, 236, 238, 240, 242, 244, 246, 248, 250, 252, 254, 256, 258, 260, 936 ¹
Sharp-tailed Grouse	O1 - N15	214, 216, 221, 224
	O1 - O31	200, 202, 203, 204, 206, 208, 210, 212, 220, 222, 226, 228, 230, 232, 234, 236, 238, 240, 242, 244, 246, 248, 250, 252, 254, 256, 258, 260, 936 ¹
Gray Partridge	S15 - N30	200, 202, 203, 204, 206, 208, 210, 212, 214, 216, 220, 221, 222, 224, 226, 228, 230, 232, 234, 236, 238, 240, 242, 244, 246, 248, 250, 252, 254, 256, 258, 260, 936 ¹
Ruffed and Sharp-tailed Grouse (Camp Wainwright) ²	A30 - S1	728, 730
Ducks, Coots, Common Snipe, White-fronted and Canada Geese and Snow and Ross' Geese (including falconry hunting)	S1 - D16	200, 202, 203, 204, 206, 208, 216, 220, 221, 222, 224, 226, 228, 230, 232, 234, 236, 238, 240, 242, 244, 246, 248, 250, 252, 254, 256, 258, 260, 936 ¹
	S8 - D23	210, 212, 214

Hunters (including bowhunters) require a Firearms Discharge Permit to hunt in WMU 936. Self-registration discharge permits are no longer available. All hunters for WMU 936 are required to attend a safety orientation prior to receiving their discharge permit. Please contact the Cooking Lake/Blackfoot Grazing, Wildlife and Recreation Area office, (780-922-3293) in order to receive information regarding orientation dates and requirements for obtaining your discharge permit.

WARNING: Hazards in the form of unexploded military munitions may exist throughout Camp Wainwright. Hunters are advised not to touch any foreign objects. **Camp Wainwright officials have advised that all hunters using shotguns to hunt game birds at Camp Wainwright must use non-toxic shot. Lead shot is not allowed.**

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Foothills WMUs (300 Series)

■ Indicates a season that only applies to hunters with a Merriam's Turkey Special Licence. Refer to the *2008 Alberta Hunting Draws* booklet.

See page 15 for definitions of month abbreviations used in seasons.

Species	Season	WMUs
Male Pheasants	S1 - O31	350, 356, 357, 358, 359, 360
	O15 - N15	300, 302, 304, 305, 310, 312, 314, 320, 322, 330, 332, 334, 336, 337, 338, 348, 349
Ruffed and Spruce Grouse	S1 - N30	316, 318, 344, 346, 347, 349, 350, 351, 352, 353, 354, 355, 356, 357, 358, 359, 360
	S15 - N30	300, 302, 303, 304, 305, 306, 308, 310, 312, 314, 320, 322, 324, 326, 328, 330, 332, 334, 336, 337, 338, 339, 340, 342, 348
Blue Grouse	S1 - N30	316, 318, 326, 328, 344, 347, 352, 353, 354, 355, 356
	S15 - N30	300, 302, 303, 304, 305, 306, 308, 310, 312, 314, 320, 324, 339, 340, 342
Sharp-tailed Grouse	S1 - N30	344, 346, 347, 349, 350, 351, 352
	O1 - O31	300, 302, 303, 304, 305, 306, 308, 353, 354, 355, 356, 357, 358, 359, 360
	O1 - N15	310, 312, 314, 320, 322, 324, 326, 328, 330, 332, 334, 336, 337, 338, 339, 340, 342, 348
Ptarmigan	S1 - D15	316, 318, 355, 356
Gray Partridge	S1 - N30	344, 346, 347, 349, 350, 352, 356, 357, 358, 359, 360
	S15 - N30	300, 302, 303, 304, 305, 306, 308, 310, 312, 314, 320, 322, 324, 332, 334, 336, 337, 338, 340, 342, 348
Merriam's Turkey	■ 2009 Ma1 - Ma31	300-308, 400 and 402 (see page 60).
Ducks, Coots, Common Snipe, White-fronted and Canada Geese and Snow and Ross' Geese (including falconry hunting)	S1 - D16	316, 318, 320, 322, 324, 326, 328, 330, 332, 334, 336, 337, 338, 339, 340, 342, 344, 346, 347, 348, 349, 350, 351, 352, 353, 354, 355, 356, 357, 358, 359, 360
	S8 - D23	300, 302, 303, 304, 305, 306, 308, 310, 312, 314



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Mountain WMUs (400 Series)

See page 15 for definitions of month abbreviations used in seasons.

Species	Season	WMUs
Ruffed and Spruce Grouse	S1 - N30	412, 414, 416, 417, 418, 420, 422, 426, 428, 430, 432, 434, 436, 437, 438, 439, 440, 441, 442, 444, 445, 446
	S15 - N30	400, 402, 404, 406, 408, 410, 429
Blue Grouse	S1 - N30	412, 414, 416, 417, 418, 420, 422, 426, 428, 430, 432, 434, 436, 437, 438, 439, 440, 441, 442, 444, 445, 446
	S15 - N30	400, 402, 404, 406, 408, 410, 429
Sharp-tailed Grouse	O1 - O31	400, 402
Ptarmigan	S1 - N30	412, 414, 416, 417, 418, 420, 422, 426, 428, 430, 432, 434, 436, 437, 438, 439, 440, 441, 442, 444, 445, 446
	S15 - N30	400, 402, 404, 406, 408, 410
Ducks, Coots, Common Snipe, White-fronted and Canada Geese and Snow and Ross' Geese (including falconry hunting)	S1 - D16	400, 402, 404, 406, 408, 410, 412, 414, 416, 417, 418, 420, 422, 426, 428, 429, 430, 432, 434, 436, 437, 438, 439, 440, 441, 442, 444, 445, 446



Boreal WMUs (500 Series & 841)

See page 15 for definitions of month abbreviations used in seasons.

Species	Season	WMUs
Male Pheasants	S1 - O31	511, 521, 522, 523, 526, 527, 535, 544
	O15 - N15	500, 501, 502, 503, 504, 505, 506, 507, 508, 509, 510, 514, 515
Ruffed and Spruce Grouse	S1 - N30	501, 502, 503, 504, 505, 506, 509, 510, 511, 512, 514, 515, 516, 517, 518, 519, 520, 521, 522, 523, 524, 525, 526, 527, 528, 529, 530, 531, 532, 534, 535, 536, 537, 539, 540, 541, 542, 544
	S15 - N30	500, 507, 508, 841
Sharp-tailed Grouse	S1 - N30	511, 512, 516, 517, 518, 519, 520, 524, 525, 528, 529, 530, 531, 532, 534, 535, 536, 537, 539, 540, 541, 542, 544
	O1 - O31	521, 522, 523, 526, 527
	O1 - N15	500, 501, 502, 503, 504, 505, 506, 507, 508, 509, 510, 514, 515, 841
Ptarmigan	S1 - D15	518, 519, 520, 524, 528, 529, 530, 531, 532, 534, 535, 536, 537, 539, 540, 541, 542, 544

Game Bird Seasons in BOREAL WMUs continued on next page

Species	Season	WMUs
Gray Partridge	S1 - N30	500, 501, 502, 503, 504, 505, 506, 509, 510, 511, 514, 515, 521, 522, 523, 526, 527, 544
	S15 - N30	507, 508
Ducks, Coots, Common Snipe, White-fronted and Canada Geese and Snow and Ross' Geese (including falconry hunting)	S1 - D16	500, 501, 502, 503, 504, 505, 506, 507, 508, 509, 510, 511, 512, 514, 515, 516, 517, 518, 519, 520, 521, 522, 523, 524, 525, 526, 527, 528, 529, 530, 531, 532, 534, 535, 536, 537, 539, 540, 541, 542, 544
	S15 - D16	841

GAME MANAGEMENT

Chronic Wasting Disease and Deer Management

Chronic Wasting Disease (CWD) is a chronic degenerative and ultimately fatal prion disease of cervids (primarily deer and elk), similar to BSE in cattle. It has the potential to eliminate local cervid populations in Alberta. CWD has been found in wild mule and white-tailed deer in the Cypress/Oyen area, wildlife management units 150, 151 and 163, and in the Chauvin/Lloydminster area, wildlife management units 234, 236 and 256.

Currently the only known way to control CWD is through localized targeted control programs, killing and removing all deer that may have been in contact with an infected animal and, maintaining deer densities at less than 1 animal per square kilometre for a period of 5 years during which ongoing testing will determine if more infected animals are located. Targeted control programs for deer will remove infected animals, reduce deer densities and prevent the risk of the disease spreading and becoming established in Alberta. At this time no other options are available to prevent the spread of CWD.

Hunters have a key role in assisting in CWD management by reducing deer densities and providing heads from harvested deer for testing. Important changes to deer hunting opportunities for WMUs 150, 151, 162, 163, 234, 236, and 256 are being implemented for the 2008 hunting season. Quota licences in the Disease Control Areas of these WMUs will be available to residents through two different processes.

- Quota licences will be available through the undersubscribed licence system. Hunters will be required to reserve their CWD Control Area licence by phoning the undersubscribed phone line starting September 3, 2008 (1-900-451-3729). They can purchase their licence at any licence issuer the next day.
- Landowners and/or their immediate family are required to apply for their quota licence through the local Fish and Wildlife office. Once approved they can purchase their licence at any licence issuer the next day. Landowner licences will be valid for titled or leased land within the CWD Control Area.

Once the tags are filled and all three heads submitted, another licence may be purchased (for the same area as the first licence with 3 more tags). The Quota Deer Licence does not count in the maximum licences or combination of licences a hunter may hold. **Note: It is a mandatory requirement to submit the heads from all deer harvested in the CWD surveillance and CWD disease control areas. Antlers and skull plate are to be removed from bucks before the head is submitted. For more information contact your local Fish and Wildlife Office or visit : rd.alberta.ca/. Go to Fish and Wildlife/Living With Fish and Wildlife/Wildlife Diseases.**

WMU 150, 151, 162, and 163 CWD Control Areas

The CWD Control Area will include Ranges 1-3. There will be a Quota Deer (CWD) Licence for \$9.00 which will have three tags. The first two tags will be for antlerless deer and the third tag will be for an antlered or

antlerless deer. Antlered and Antlerless Mule Deer will remain on a draw for the entire WMU. The Antlerless White-tailed Deer draw in WMU 162 and 163 has been eliminated. The White-tailed Deer Licence and Supplemental Antlerless White-tailed Deer Licence is now valid in these WMUs. The archery only season will be from September 3-October 14. The new primitive weapon season will be from October 15- October 31. The rifle season will be from November 1- December 20, Monday to Saturday and November 1- January 15, 2009 Monday to Saturday for landowners. Only the rifle season will be printed on the Quota Deer (CWD) Licence. Holders of the Antlered and Antlerless Mule Deer Special Licence, a White-tailed Deer Licence or a Supplemental Antlerless White-tailed Deer Licence may hunt in the CWD Control Area from November 1- December 20 and November 1- January 15, 2009 for landowners.

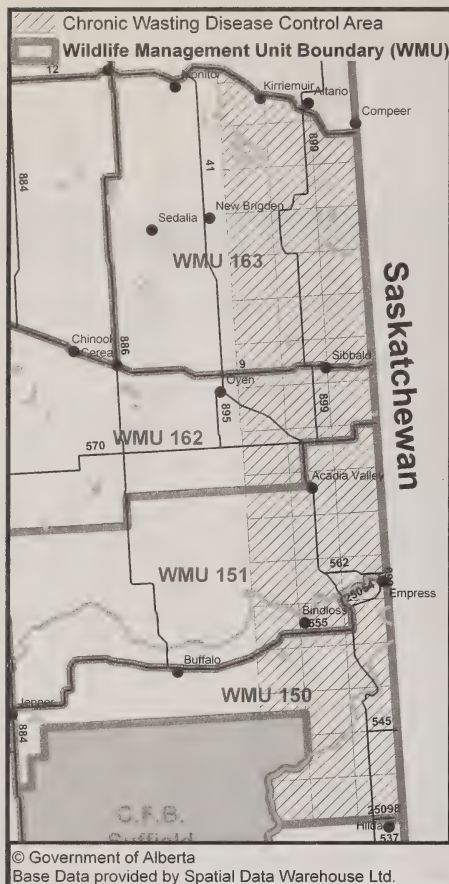
WMU 236 and 256 CWD Control Areas

The CWD Control Area will include Ranges 1-3. There will be a Quota Deer (CWD) Licence for \$9.00 which will have three tags. The first two tags will be for antlerless deer and the third tag will be for antlered or antlerless deer. Antlered Mule Deer will remain on a draw for the entire WMU. The Antlerless Mule Deer draw in these WMUs has been eliminated and replaced with a Supplemental Antlerless Mule Deer licence which will have two tags. The archery only season will be from September 3- October 14. The new primitive weapon season will be from October 15- October 31. The rifle season will be from November 1-December 20 and November 1- January 15, 2009 for landowners. Sunday hunting is also allowed. Only the rifle season will be printed on the Quota Deer (CWD) Licence. Licence holders of the Antlered Mule Deer Special Licence, a Supplemental Antlerless Mule Deer licence, a White-tailed Deer Licence or a Supplemental Antlerless White-tailed Deer Licence may hunt in the CWD Control Area from November 1- December 20 and November 1- January 15, 2009 for landowners.

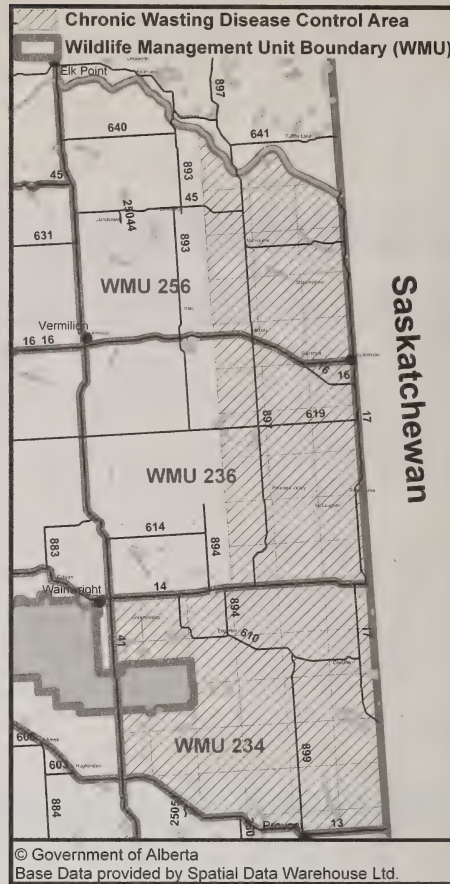
WMU 234

The entire WMU is a CWD Control Area. There will be a Quota Deer (CWD) Licence for \$9.00 which will have three tags. The first two tags will be for antlerless deer and the third tag will be for antlered or antlerless deer. The Antlerless Mule Deer special licence has been eliminated and replaced with a Supplemental Antlerless Mule Deer Licence which will have two tags. The archery only season will be from September 3- October 14. The new primitive weapon season will be from October 15- October 31. The rifle season will be from November 1- December 20 and November 1- January 15, 2009 for landowners. Sunday hunting is also allowed. Only the rifle season will be printed on the Quota Deer (CWD) Licence. Holders of the Supplemental Antlerless Mule Deer licence, a White-tailed Deer Licence or a Supplemental Antlerless White-tailed Deer Licence may hunt in the CWD Control Area from November 1-December 20 and November 1-January 15, 2009 for landowners.

WMU 150, 151, 162, and 163 CWD Control Areas



WMU 234, 236 and 256 CWD Control Areas



Season Dates and Available Licences in CWD Control Areas

WMU	Archery Only (Sept. 3 – Oct. 14)	Primitive Weapons (Oct. 15 – Oct. 31)	Rifle (Nov. 1 – Dec. 20)
150, 151, 162, 163 (Ranges 1, 2, 3)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Quota Deer (CWD) Licence • Supplemental Antlerless White-tailed Deer Licence • White-tailed Deer Licence • Antlered Mule Deer Special Licence • Antlerless Mule Deer Special Licence • Mule Deer Licence (valid only for archery hunting September 3 - October 31) 		
236, 256 (Ranges 1, 2, 3)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Quota Deer (CWD) Licence • Supplemental Antlerless White-tailed Deer Licence • White-tailed Deer Licence • Antlered Mule Deer Special Licence • Supplemental Antlerless Mule Deer Licence • Mule Deer Licence (valid only for archery hunting September 3 - October 31) 		
234 (entire WMU)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Quota Deer (CWD) Licence • Supplemental Antlerless White-tailed Deer Licence • White-tailed Deer Licence • Supplemental Antlerless Mule Deer Licence • Mule Deer Licence (valid only for archery hunting September 3 - October 31) 		

The rifle season for landowners within the CWD Control Areas is from November 1, 2008 - January 15, 2009.

Marked Wildlife

Some species of wildlife are banded, collared or marked by other means in an ongoing effort to gain additional population biology information. You can assist and cooperate in these programs by reporting encounters with any marked animal to the nearest Fish and Wildlife Division office (page 16).

Some of these marked wildlife, as well as certain nuisance animals (e.g., some black bears), may have received drugs for research purposes or to facilitate their capture and handling. Any such animal will be marked with a tag advising that the meat of the animal should not be consumed before contacting the Fish and Wildlife Division of Alberta Sustainable Resource Development.



Alberta Conservation Association's **REPORT A POACHER** program provides Albertans with the opportunity to report suspected violations using a toll-free number: **1-800-642-3800** or **#3800** on the **TELUS Mobility network**

(courtesy TELUS Mobility). The line is in operation 24 hours a day, 7 days a week.

Fishing or hunting out of season, night hunting, exceeding bag limits, illegal sale of fish and wildlife and deposit of harmful substances in lakes and rivers are violations that seriously affect fish and wildlife in Alberta. If you see or know of a violation, you should record all information, including

- date
- time
- location
- vehicle licence number
- vehicle description
- description of person(s) involved
- details of violation, and any other details, no matter how insignificant they may seem. You should then contact the nearest Fish and Wildlife Division office or call **1-800-642-3800** as soon as possible.

If the information provided concerns a resource violation and results in the laying of a charge, the reporter may be eligible for a reward. If you have any questions about this program, please contact the nearest Fish and Wildlife Division office (page 16).

Report Waterfowl Leg Bands by Telephone or Internet

All waterfowl leg bands recovered in North America can now be reported by telephoning the toll-free number **1-800-327-BAND** (1-800-327-2263). Calls can be made from anywhere in Canada or the United States, 24 hours a day, 7 days a week. However, operators are only available from 7:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. eastern time, Monday to Friday. After-hours and weekend callers will hear a recorded message requesting they leave their name and daytime telephone number so that the Bird Banding Lab can call them back. Band recovery can also be reported by internet at the website www.reportband.gov. Recovered bands can still be reported by mail, or to the nearest office of the Fish and Wildlife Division (page 16), if you do not wish to report the band by telephone or internet.

Wild Game Public Health Advisory

The wild game public health advisory for the Swan Hills area – originally issued on December 13, 1996, by the Provincial Health Officer – has been revised as a result of more extensive wild game testing. While recent test results confirm that eating wild game from the Swan Hills area poses no immediate threat to human health, it is recommended that individuals limit the amount of wild game eaten.

For more information contact Alberta Health and Wellness at 780-427-7164.



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DATE: _____

I _____ address: _____ Ph. # _____
(print hunter's name)

give permission to _____ address: _____ Ph. # _____
(print name of person transporting wildlife)

to transport _____
(description of shipment including sex and species)

date of kill: _____ W.I.N. #: _____ Lic./Tag # _____

taken under authority of my _____
(describe type of hunting licence)

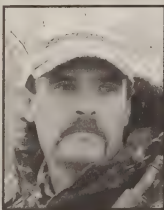
This wildlife is to be transported from _____
(point of origin)

to _____ on _____
(destination) (date)

(signature of hunter)

(signature of person transporting the wildlife)

MESSAGE from the PUBLISHER



Rob Miskosky

2008 is indeed an exciting time if you are a hunter in Alberta. Many favourable changes have been made to this year's hunting regulations that clearly benefit hunters. From increased deer, moose and elk seasons to a bison hunt and the use of electronic calls for hunting snow geese, our outdoor hunting pursuits have taken a dramatic step towards the positive.

But for many of us the most exciting change this year will be our ability to hunt on Sundays all across the province for the first time in Alberta's history (see Don Meredith's "A History of Sunday Hunting" on this page).

All hunters, no matter where they reside will be able to hunt bird game on Sundays and, short of a few limited restrictions, big game as well. Please make sure you read these regulations carefully so you fully understand what your capabilities are when hunting on Sundays.

Last year three Alberta hunters had hunting seasons that most can only dream of and all three have been recognized for their accomplishments.

Colin Campbell of Blackfalds, Darcy Barrett of High River and Jason Klaus of Castor, Alberta all had a fantastic 2007 hunting season.

Colin Campbell's Alberta Hunter of the Year winning mule deer scored a full 200 5/8" before deductions with a final score of 196 4/8". Taken near Big Valley, his buck earns him \$500 and the distinction of being Alberta's 2007 Hunter of the Year.

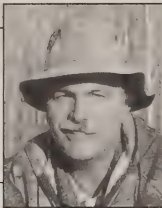
Darcy Barrett also needs to be recognized for his achievement in harvesting a phenomenal bull elk. His bull, taken near Waterton, scored 354 4/8 and is indeed a tremendous site to behold.

Jason Klaus also had a great 2007 season by connecting with a very handsome southern Alberta white-tailed buck that netted a super 191 7/8". Both Darcy and Jason earn \$250 and along with Colin the right to appear on page 96 of this year's regulations. Check them out!

This hunting season I urge all hunters to treat each other and the animals we pursue with a tremendous amount of respect. Our actions in the field this hunting season will determine how the public views us in the future. If we maintain good relations with the general public we will be a part of the landscape for many years to come.

Good hunting everybody, and just maybe we'll see you on Sunday. ■

A History of Sunday Hunting



by
**Don
Meredith**

This is a landmark year in the history of changes to the Alberta hunting regulations. For the first time since game laws and regulations came into being,

hunters will be able to hunt on Sundays all across the province for game birds, and most of the province for big game (see Important Changes, page 12). These changes are a culmination of a century of work by hunters who wanted to increase their weekend hunting opportunities.

Why has Sunday hunting been an issue? If you worked a traditional workweek, the weekend may have been your only time to get out. If half of that weekend was taken away because hunting was closed on Sunday, you may have felt short-changed. Likewise on a longer term hunting

trip, having to withdraw each Sunday of the week may have seemed like a waste of valuable time.

To understand why it took so long to make these changes, I think it is important to look at the history of Sunday hunting in this province.

In 1903, before Alberta became a province, the Northwest Territorial Government passed *Game Ordinance* that, among other things, prohibited hunting on a Sunday across the territories, which included what is now Alberta and Saskatchewan. After Alberta became a province in 1905, it passed its first *Game Act* in 1907, which superseded the 1903 ordinance but

kept the prohibition against Sunday hunting across the province.

In those early years, no Sunday hunting most likely had a large religious component. The majority of residents were Christians who respected the various churches' designation of Sunday being a day



Hunters can now hunt big game on Sundays during open seasons with few restrictions.

of rest and worship. If a person wasn't a regular churchgoer, he or she most likely appreciated the day off, even if it did not involve hunting. Since that time, attitudes have become more liberal. Instead of working six days a week, most of us work five. The immigration of non-

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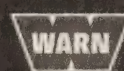
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Christians into our society has forced secular governments to consider the needs of other religions who may not consider Sunday a holy day. Many workers do not work a "standard" workweek, and may take their time off in the middle of the week. As a result, Sunday is just another day of the week to many people, including people from Christian backgrounds.

However, traditions die hard. Indeed, many landowners appreciate not having to deal with hunters requesting permission to hunt at least one day a week. Since the law already denies hunting on Sunday, why change it?

Well, change it has. In large part led by local clubs of the Alberta Fish and Game Association, hunters began lobbying government to repeal Sunday hunting before the 1920s. However, progress was painfully slow. It was not until 1969 that the government finally relented and opened big game to Sunday hunting in all of the Green Area of old Big Game Zone 1 in northern Alberta (roughly north of Peace River, Slave Lake and Athabasca), plus WMUs 440, 442 and 445 in the northern mountains (Willmore Wilderness; note: these and other WMUs have since been subdivided). The "Green Area" is forested Crown land; so the government did not have to deal with private landowners or municipalities to open these areas.

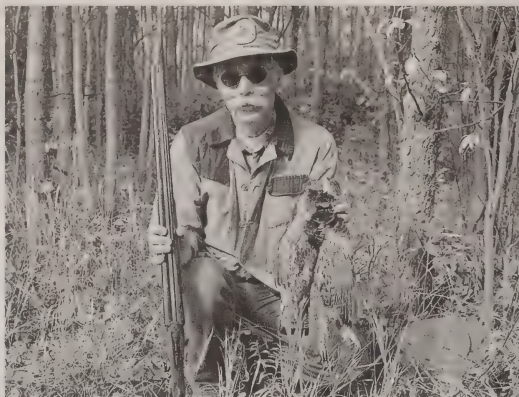
In 1970 Sunday hunting was extended to include upland game birds in the same area opened in 1969. The Sunday hunting area itself was expanded in 1973 to include the Green Area of foothill WMUs 350 and 352, east of the Willmore Wilderness. In 1978 a further expansion included the Green Area portions of many of the remaining WMUs between the Willmore Wilderness and old Big Game Zone 1, except the White Area (agriculture lands) in WMUs in the Peace River—Grande Prairie areas. For the first time a Sunday Hunting map was included in the regulations guide for 1978. Waterfowl was finally added to the game that could be hunted in Sunday hunting areas in 1987. (Thanks to Ken Lungle of Alberta Sustainable Resource Development for providing some of this early historic information.)

No further additions to the Sunday hunting area were made until 1995, when an island of Sunday hunting was provided in mountain WMUs east of Banff and Jasper National parks (420-428, 430-437), increasing opportunities for hunters in the Red Deer and Calgary areas. This island was expanded in 2003 to include some foothill and additional mountain WMUs.

The Sunday hunting area was further expanded northwest of Edmonton in 2004 to fill in Grande Prairie—Peace River—Fort Vermilion WMUs and included much agricultural land. In 2007 Sunday hunting was expanded south of Lac La Biche to Two Hills,

again in the White Area.

These additions over the decades were not made out of the goodness of the government's heart. They were won after hunters waged hard fought battles that included lobbying both provincial and municipal governments. The



Bird hunters can hunt on any Sunday during open seasons in the areas they wish to hunt.

Alberta Fish and Game Association led the charge. As former AFGA president, Randy Collins, described the process to me: "various resolutions from numerous affiliated clubs have been brought forward to the annual AFGA conferences, some asking for a province-wide change to accept Sunday hunting and others that wanted specific areas of the province opened up." If passed (and most were), these resolutions were forwarded to the provincial government where the Fish and Wildlife Division took them under advisement.

It was such resolutions and associated lobbying that finally convinced the provincial

government to at least open the north to Sunday hunting in areas where there were no landowners to complain. The government was reluctant to grant province-wide Sunday hunting because of the political backlash that would occur from landowners and municipalities. What has been more effective is individual fish and game clubs lobbying their local municipalities and the provincial government to open WMUs in their areas. "A great example of how this works is what happened in the Bonnyville area over the past number of years," said Collins. "The Beaver River Fish and Game club not only brought a resolution to the annual conference, but also approached the local government and presented an educated and informed argument about the benefits Sunday hunting would bring to the area." As a result, Sunday hunting was expanded in that area of the province in 2007.

However, until this year, most Sunday hunting was still found north of Edmonton. Driving from Edmonton or Calgary to hunt on Sunday could require considerable driving time, depending on where you wished to hunt. Now, that has all changed. Bird hunters can hunt on any Sunday during open seasons in the areas they wish to hunt.

There are a few more restrictions for big game hunters. Sunday hunting is still closed for big game in all 100 series (prairie) WMUs in southern Alberta, and is reduced in 400 to 414 (mountain) WMUs in southern Alberta. So, if you are a big game hunter who lives in Lethbridge or Medicine Hat, you may feel there is still more work to be done. If so, there are some local fish and game clubs that could probably use your help. ■

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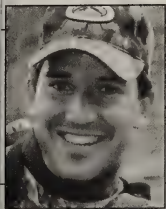
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Specs & Snows



by
**Claudio
Ongaro**

If you hunt waterfowl in Alberta, you likely chase the B-52 of all geese—the Canada goose—and those red-legged greenheads—the mallard. Most of us cut our teeth hunting nothing but. They are plentiful, the most widespread, the easiest to hunt and perceived to be the best table fare.

Well... now it's time for you to start chasing specs and snows. There are lots of them, they're easier to spot and speckled bellies, or white-fronted geese, are the best of all to eat. Location, location, location.

Like anything else, hunting them where they're not is futile. The major flyway for these geese is in Saskatchewan and creeps in from the Alberta border some 150 km or so. That is not to say you won't find specs and snows further west, it's just that if you want to get after the real numbers you should head as far east as time and fuel reserves will permit—hug the border.

I am a waterfowl outfitter and have been for fifteen years now. And with that comes experience. Much of what I have learned is a compilation of the good, the bad, and the ugliest of experiences. We have tried everything to help decoy wary specs and snows to bring them within gun range of our hunters. And we are finally starting to get good at it. Some things worked, some didn't. I won't bore

you with the details of everything that didn't work—I'll save that for a book on the miseries of bird outfitting—but what works?

Of course spotting and getting permission is your first step. An important thing to remember here is watching the birds feed. Many guys I bump into spot a hunt with several thousand specs and snows on it and decide to sit on it or let it build. BIG, BIG mistake. For the most part these birds are feeding in combined fields on waste grain. There is not that much of it on the ground. They will feed it out in a few days if there are thousands of birds feeding there. If I spot a hunt that has a huge number of birds, I will get permission on it, watch it for one more feeding and hunt it as quick as I can. If the birds are

feeding along the edges of the field or up against the road, that should send up a warning flag for you to avoid the hunt—just keep on driving. These birds are feeding there because there is nothing left to feed on in the middle of the field and are chancing their lives with getting too close to ditches and field edges—they may not be there tomorrow. Hence the phrase; "they didn't come back".

Both specs and snows have similar habits:



Hunting on windy days gives the hunter a distinct advantage as the birds tend to fly lower to the ground.

they fly in big gobs (more commonly referred to as 'strings') on calm days and are extremely wary when in these big numbers. Most hunters have been burned by these geese before and tend to stick with hunting Canada geese because of their so called predictability. Specs and snows are very predictable if you don't let them feed a field out. Those big shoots that go from fenceline to fenceline with birds (even on their first visit there) I won't even look at. They will feed that field out in one day or even a half day—hence the inconsistency of their return.

Look for smaller bird clusters with two to three thousand and you'll be fine. Hunt them on windy days. This is Alberta and it's almost always windy. The windier the better. What happens on windy days on the roost has more significance than their ability to fly,

see, or the myriad of other legendary tales of why they decoy better in the wind. Here's the dirt on this. Then I'll get into how to set your dekes, which I know is what you are waiting for but this stuff will help you understand why to hunt in the windiest of days.

When it's windy, birds sitting on the roost will seek shelter from the wind (no different than you, I, deer or cows) by tucking into small coves and bays or anything that will offer protection. Most of these protected places won't hold thousands of birds so they will be broken up into small pods. As they get hungry and decide to fly to feed they are separated and may not see or hear each other take off. This will spread the flight out over a longer time period and have several smaller flocks approaching your decoy spread. They will also fly low to the

continued on page 79



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When hunting specs or snows it is wise to put out a large decoy spread to ensure success.

ground taking advantage of what is called ground effect—the earth's ability to break up the wind's speed close to the surface. This is important because without altitude, they can't see your profile on the ground nearly as well—it has nothing to do with not seeing well in the wind. These things are made to fly through anything.

As they approach your spread, wary birds will start to climb about 40 to 80 yards back or downwind of your spread to get a better look at what they are getting into. Wary birds will slide

off your spread without presenting you a shot opportunity.

Now for the goods on your spread.

We now know what makes them click and killable on windy days. You still need to get them in your lap so you can get a clean shot inside of 40 yards—remember you are shooting steel. They will approach from downwind no matter where they roost, even if they have to skirt the decoy rig on their first approach to get downwind to attempt a landing.

You can try to shoot them with a standard set up where you're set up in the decoys on the upwind side of the landing lane or "hole", but shy birds will

have plenty of time to look you over as they hover in the wind and slide off left, right or straight back and just out of gun range on the downwind side. Set your decoys as you normally would; leave a big landing lane. Your

blinds, however, need to be downwind and to the side of your decoys. You can place a few (six decoys, no more) near your blinds if you feel naked out there without a decoy around. How far downwind will depend on how windy it is and how much the birds have been hunted. Start 15 yards back and 20 to the side. Your blinds should be parallel to the wind facing the approach path. If the birds are sliding off further back (let's say fifty yards back from your decoys), move your blinds fifty yards back. Don't touch your decoys. Or move your decoys fifty yards up and don't touch your blinds. Do whichever is more convenient for you to put your shot string into the bird's flight path. It really is quite simple. Use lots of decoys. When I hunt specs and snows I use about 350. A compilation of shells, silhouettes and full bodies—that's why I suggested moving the blinds first. I can move a few blinds a lot faster than I can move 350 decoys.

Happy gunning! ■



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Grouse Hunting for Dummies



by
**Neil
Waugh**

When public opinion polls are taken from time to time on what our most popular upland game bird is, it appears logic doesn't live here anymore.

Because instead of the gaudy cock pheasant of the southern coulees and irrigation ditches.

Or the nervous and flighty sharptail and community-minded Hungarian partridge, another bird inevitably tops the list as the People's Choice.

He's not a habitu  of the hedgerow or open spaces but likes his habitat tight and treed. And after the first shots ring out in the fall and the nesting clutches scatter, he tends more often than not to be a loner.

Step up the lowly ruffed grouse—King of the Uplands, Emperor of the Edge. At least in the minds of a majority of Alberta outdoorsmen and women whenever they are asked to vote on the subject.

A lot of ruffies, you have to suspect, are harvested in association of a northern boreal moose hunt. Something to augment the spike camp pot and shot more by luck than by design.

But the bird has a range that extends far beyond the aspen and spruce woods of the north. Reaching out into the parklands and along the Rocky Mountain foothills to the Crownstest Pass and south.

There's no doubt that the ruffed grouse is a survivor. But the key to the bird's survival—as with all wild critters—is habitat.

A lot of Alberta birds are shot randomly in association with another hunt. To specifically go out and target ruffies, you first have to do your homework.

Here are some simple tips to help you fill the game pouch of your hunting vest. Let's call it Grouse Hunting for Dummies.

Habitat: All wild animals need a place where they can find readily available food and protection from their enemies. Both four-legged and otherwise.

In Alberta, more than almost anywhere else in North America, the ruffed grouse's home is in the aspen forests. Because that's where he rides out the winter as soon as the deep snows arrive, eating poplar buds high in the forest canopy. That's the first essential ingredient to a successful ruffie hunt.



Hunting ruffies on the "edge" is a sure way to put some birds in your game pouch.

The second is "edge." While ruffed grouse are hunted elsewhere in deep woods or second growth situations—the New Englanders calls this "popple"—Alberta ruffies are an edge hunt.

That magic and often hard-to-define area where the deep woods and open spaces come together.

Edge can be the fenceline of a community pasture. Or an old logging road or pioneers' trail.

But the most extensive and important provider of edge in the province are the hundreds of thousands of kilometres of cut-lines, pipeline right-of-ways and lease roads created by the energy industry.

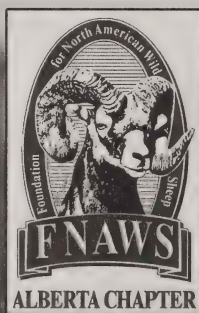
Known by the loosely defined term Oil Patch. Hunting the oil patch can be one of the most

rewarding ways of finding ruffed grouse. Hunters should also remember that it's a working landscape and the utmost caution should be taken when placing a shot.

Food Sources: Ruffed grouse are drawn to edge for one specific purpose. Food. A ruffies crop can be filled with an eclectic mix of food sources—snowberries, wildrose hips, buds, choke cherries or high-bush cranberries.

But there's one essential ingredient that you will almost always find in an Alberta ruffed grouse's diet. And that's clover.

In the fall they just love the stuff. Which is another key to grouse hunting success and another reason why edge hunting is so important. As part of Alberta's environmental



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aws oil and forestry companies are required to e-vegetate their road ditches and right-of-ways. nvariably the seed mixture contains a percentage of red clover. They are also required o maintain their road dges and oil leases with n annual mowing. Giving he low growing clover an dvantage over the grass nd adding to the Oil atch ruffie heaven.

A stretch of oil road lanked by aspen woods with a prolific crop of clover in the ditch is an deal scenario to produce ruffed grouse. So will other examples of edge as ong as the secret to hunting success is present. And that's clover.

Hunting: Next to some species of waterfowl, Alberta's 10-bird bag limit for ruffed grouse is generous and then some. And the season is just as incredible. Stretching from early September in many northern Wildlife Management Units to the end of November.

Ruffed grouse populations apparently are either impervious to hunting pressure or there's so much habitat out there that most never see a hunter. That doesn't mean Alberta ruffed grouse populations don't experience peaks and troughs. More than anywhere else in North America Alberta ruffie population peaks are steeper. And the crashes are more severe.

So some years filling a 10 bird limit is no problem. Other times it's mission impossible. And the population changes aren't uniform across the province which only adds to the ruffed grouse's enigma.

Still, even in the lean years ruffed grouse hunting can pay off as long as you're prepared to expend a little boot leather and put in the trail time.

Birds can be found in edge habitat at anytime of the day. But a late afternoon hunt can be especially rewarding. Hunt the birds by walking along a little-used oil road or bush trail scanning up ahead for the ruffed grouse's distinct silhouette. The ruffed grouse's plumage is a perfect match for its fall habitat and its habit of remaining perfectly still to evade its enemies can result in explosive flushes right at your feet. The distance between the road side

ditch and the sanctity of the poplars is often measured in micro-seconds, ruffed grouse shotgunning must be fast and furious.

Even though the early grouse season begins when the aspens have yet to feel the first blush of autumn, classic ruffed grouse hunting doesn't really get going until the leaves are down and the woods open up.

Walk up grouse hunting can be successful but your flush rate will increase exponentially if you have a dog along. Breed is not necessarily an essential ingredient here. The two defining factors for a good grouse dog are bird sense and toughness. The chaos of the boreal forest floor that the ruffie calls home is no place for a pooch without stamina. You also need a dog with a nose for the job.

Because a lot of fruitless bush cruising without a purpose will burn out your four-legged friend in no time.

The only way for a grouse dog to learn and get better is with work. Try to keep your dog tight to you—easier said than done sometimes. And when it gets birdie, bring your gun up to a shooting position, thumb on the safety.

Because your window of opportunity will be shut in a hurry once the birds lifts off and heads for the tall timber.

There are two schools when it comes to grouse guns. Many Alberta grouse are still harvested as static birds—either on the ground or from tree limbs—using a .22. Which is Old



Your flush rate will greatly increase if you have a dog along.



School by fellows who still like to refer to Comrade Ruffie as a "bush partridge" or even a "fool hen."

The other way is to wing-shoot them with a shotgun. Either 12 or 20 gauge in a double-barrel or semi-auto configuration.

Pump guns tend to be too slow for getting off a second shot at a fast fleeing ruffed grouse, I've found.

When it comes to grouse loads, the more the merrier is the general rule. And the more balls you have in the air the better. Unlike a cock pheasant, it doesn't take much to knock down a ruffed grouse. Getting a shotgun pellet on target is more of a problem because of the boreal jungle that a ruffie almost invariably heads for when flushed. So low brass 7/12 shot loads are perfectly okay for ruffed grouse. And easy on the wallet too.

Even if you don't find as many birds as you'd like to, an afternoon's walk in the grouse woods with it's intoxicating smells and brilliant colours is what hunting for the people's favorite game bird is really all about. ■

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by
**T.J.
Schwanky**

PRONGHORN FEVER

Alberta is blessed with an incredible array of big game species from the bighorn sheep and mountain goats of the Rockies, to the moose of the far north and the mule deer of the south. But, there is one species that definitely stands out among its peers and that's the pronghorn. Known to most Albertans as the antelope, the pronghorn truly is unique in the fact that it has no other relatives in the world. These little prairie speedsters have been part of the scene for the better part of 25 million years and fossilized remains show that evolution has had very little hand in altering them. While other animal species died out during the glaciation period, the pronghorn seems to have adapted very nicely. Of the hundreds of species of large grazers that roamed the plains of North America 20,000 years ago, the pronghorn is the only one to survive unaltered. In fact, it is the only member of the genus *Antilocapridae* present today.



Pronghorn are at the extreme northern edge of their range in Alberta.

As unique as the pronghorn's family tree is, he has a few more tricks up his sleeve. The pronghorn is the only horned game in the world that sheds its horns annually. Unlike antlered game which shed their antlers right at the skull, the pronghorn sheds the horn sheath, leaving the bony horn core securely attached to the skull. Pronghorn typically shed their horns in late October and horns are fully grown by mid summer.

Another quirk of the pronghorn that often surprises those not familiar with their habits is that except in the rarest of cases, pronghorn will not jump a fence but will rather crawl under the bottom wire of even a regular barbed-wire fence. It seems that despite their athletic build, they never learned to jump during their millions of years of roaming the fenceless plains. For the hunter, this idiosyncrasy can really stack the odds in your favour as too can another of other strange characteristics of the pronghorn.

Unlike many other ungulates found in the province, locating pronghorn is definitely not the most challenging part of hunting them. They prefer the open expanses of Alberta's grasslands and are most often found on native tracts of prairie. While farmers often lay blame on pronghorns for crop depredation, the truth is, these small ungulates are not fond of tame crops and prefer the hard grass, sage and other herbs and forbs found on the prairies.

I've seen them occasionally venture onto irrigated alfalfa fields or into clover or tame grass but this is typically only when winter snows make getting to the short grass found on the prairie difficult. In higher elevation areas, pronghorn rely almost exclusively on tall stands of sage to make it through the winter.

Pronghorn are at the extreme northern edge of their range in Alberta and are very susceptible to extreme winters but it seems they bounce back very quickly after a tough winter and their migratory tendency will often lead them further south into Montana in years with bad winters.



The pronghorn is the only horned game in the world that sheds its horns annually.

They can be hunted as far north as WMU 166 and they have been spotted with regularity all the way north to Camp Wainwright. While all Management Units offer quality hunting experiences, it seems that the largest population

of pronghorn in the province are centered around CFB Suffield. This is undoubtedly due to the high concentration of native prairie remaining there.

I wish I could tell you it was more technical but finding pronghorns

usually involves putting some miles on the pickup truck and doing lots of glassing. Concentrate on areas with large tracts of native prairie and don't be surprised to find them right in the middle of vast expanses of nothing. It's amazing how a group of pronghorns can lie down in what appears to be the middle of nowhere and disappear. I killed a great buck last fall from a pasture that I'd glassed three times before I spotted the pronghorns. They were lying in a small depression about a mile from the road and it wasn't until one of them stood up that I finally

continued on page 8



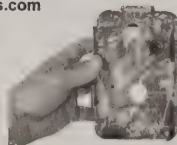
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*AFGA youth hunter Colton Quinn with
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*Alabama youth hunter Brittany Lawley with
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got a look at the buck. Their colouration is the perfect camouflage for the tan prairie grass encountered in the fall. Their large white rump patches can be their undoing, however. When alarmed, they puff the hair up on their rump and in the afternoon sun it looks like a beacon on the prairie.

The great thing about pronghorns is that during hunting season they rarely move around much unless pressured so the patient hunter can usually score.

The season kicks off in early September for archery hunters and while at first glance, getting close to a creature as wary and flighty as a pronghorn on a flat prairie may seem impossible, there is a chink in their armour. Pronghorn bucks, much like elk, will control a herd of does throughout the rut and are very aggressive towards any other bucks that dare venture into their territory. While small in stature, I've seen some fights between dominant bucks that would put moose to shame.

The archery hunter can capitalize on this through the use of decoys. If you can sneak to within a few hundred metres of a buck without being detected and pop up a buck antelope decoy, nine times out of ten the buck will come running over to challenge you. It's amazing how these typically wary creatures seem to lose their minds when challenged in this method and archery success is much higher than

many people think. The best period for decoying seems to be around the 15th of September but the rut continues into early October.

Setting up near water holes can be another effective method for hunting pronghorns,

especially in areas with limited water available. This method works equally well for archers and rifle hunters and if you have the patience to wait, pronghorn will typically water once a day. Look for dugouts with antelope tracks around them. Sloughs and wetlands that are

surrounded by expanses of soft mud will be a second choice for pronghorns. They like a water source with firm footing that allows them to flee quickly plus their small legs and feet are not well adapted to soft ground. While some hunters

feel that digging a pit is a necessity when staking out a waterhole, it seems that antelope are fairly accepting of above-ground blinds, especially if they are set up a few days prior to the hunt. One word of caution, however, is that pronghorns not only have great eye sight, their sense of smell is incredible as well so choose a blind location

the coordinates of each location on my GPS and mark the location on the map. Then, it's easy to go back for opening day. I wish I could tell you there was a secret to sneaking up on a heard of pronghorn that are described by many as having eye sight similar to eight-power binoculars but there isn't any. Use the topography to your advantage, watch the wind and have patience and getting to within a couple hundred yards is rarely a problem.

Certainly flat-shooting rifles equipped with quality optics and a shooting aid like a bipod will help in connecting on a shot but with a little patience, skill and luck, getting within a couple hundred yards for a shot is rarely a problem. Claims of long shots on pronghorns are often exaggerated as their small stature does make them appear much further away than they actually are.

If you've never hunted pronghorn, drawing a tag can require six years or more but it is well worth the wait. Take the time to learn more about these fascinating creatures and to learn to judge their trophy quality and you'll be well prepared when you do finally draw a licence.



Pronghorn antelope have great eyesight.



Drawing a tag can take six years or more but the wait is well worth the hunt.

accordingly.

For me, the most rewarding and effective way for the rifle hunter is spot and stalk. My typical antelope hunt finds me arriving in my selected WMU several days prior to the season opener and covering miles and glassing and hopefully locating a number of good bucks. I simply save

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Better Waterfowling

10 Steps for Improving Your Duck and Goose Hunting

For Alberta wing shooters, there is no place like home. If you're an avid waterfowler, or you're thinking about giving it a try, consider cashing in on this abundant resource by following these 10 important steps.

Step 1: Practice Shooting Year Round

Consistently missing your target can be frustrating. Like golf, you can't expect success if you don't practice at the range. Seasoned gunners know that familiarity with their shotgun is paramount to knocking down birds.

Knowing your shotgun and becoming familiar with how it works and feels is the first step. Repeatedly shouldering your firearm breeds a kinesthetic awareness. Practice doesn't necessarily make perfect, but proper practice does. Working on good shooting form will pay dividends when hunting season arrives. As you shoot, be sure to stand upright and avoid lowering your face or tilting your head to the firearm. Use both hands equally and mount the gun at the same place on your face each time. Remember consistency is important. The



Familiarity with your gun will bring you success in the field.

swinging, mounting, pointing, leading and shooting process will become second nature making your hunts that much more enjoyable.

Step 2: Do Your Homework

Savvy waterfowl hunters know that success begins with scouting. Periodically duck and goose hunters get lucky and stumble on a barn burner but most often finding a viable shoot means studying maps, covering many kilometers and making judgment calls based on available feed and circumstances. Locating roost waters, following birds as they lift and fly to puddles or feeding fields is a critical step in the

waterfowl hunting equation.

Once you locate a concentration of birds, take some time to evaluate what's really happening. It's not always as simple as birds dropping into one spot in a field to feed. Take a closer look at the field they are feeding in or the staging water they're using. Waste grains like peas or barley are usually standby food sources. If birds are dropping into a wheat field, you may want to do some more research. Consider nearby food alternatives. Their stop in the wheat field may be short-lived with a preference for the aforementioned.



by
**Kevin
Wilson**

Step 3: Create a Landing Area

As a rule, ducks and geese find comfort in numbers. Big spreads, i.e. a minimum of 100 birds will usually instill confidence, but several hundred decoys generally closes the deal but they must be placed properly. Regardless of the size of the spread, if you're goal is to have them finish, it's important to define your desired landing area with a landing area. Creating a vacancy in your spread is inviting. Ducks, particularly less educated birds, can be drawn into a basic spread with as few as one or two dozen floaters, full bodies or shells. Geese on the other hand, can require some strategy throughout the season. In the early weeks throughout much of September, some variation of a basic "J", "X" or "U" pattern comprised of several dozen full bodies, shells, or ideally a mix will usually do the trick. As the leaves fall and temperatures



Creating a landing area within your spread is inviting for birds.

drop in early October, some creativity is often necessary to enjoy consistent success. Until early October I prefer to open up my pattern by creating pockets of family groups, leaving a more distinct opening to entice them to

land. From early October on I will sometimes use a smaller number of decoys and place them in a tighter ball with a distinct hole in the middle. Watch Canadas at this time of the season and you'll commonly see them bunching up for safety. Whether it's pressured geese or a sense of urgency to migrate, mid-to-late October geese can be less reliable requiring some variance to the spread. Depending on wind, temperature, timing and hunting pressure, consider offsetting your blinds up to 50 metres downwind from the decoys to capitalize on the first shot opportunities.

Step 4: Cover Up

Historically many goose hunters dug pits. Out of sight, out of mind, was the philosophy. For years willow blinds, bale blinds and even oversized decoys were used to hide hunters. The most current trend is a focus on low profile coffin-style blinds that are both portable and easy to use.

Aside from an effective blind, camouflage is an important element of waterfowl hunting. With a

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seemingly endless list of alternatives in the marketplace, to find a pattern that blends in well with Alberta's field and marsh habitats.

step 5: Avoid Glare

Glint, shine and glare off faces, decoys, barrels and other equipment can be the kiss of death. Remember, as ducks and geese approach a spread they are constantly evaluating how safe it looks. Anything that appears out of place or even remotely risky can cause them to flare. Take measures to cover anything that might alert birds. New decoys often have a shiny finish; consider rubbing some dirt on them to remove the sheen. Hunters should wear hats, jackets, bibs or waders, gloves and a face covering.

step 6: Consider Movement

Movement can be good and bad. When birds are on approach, it is imperative that everyone in the spread remain motionless. Incoming birds are seeking reassurance that it's a safe place to land. Likewise adding motion to the decoys can instill confidence in incoming birds. Motorized decoys can be very effective on ducks in the field or over water. Although motion goose decoys are available, in my experience, they prompt more negative responses, typically repelling wary birds. Flagging is a great strategy for attracting reluctant birds, but only if it's done correctly and that means when birds are distant or flying away from the spread. Avoid flagging if birds are

committed or in close range looking directly at the spread.

Step 7: Set Up Early

Whether you're hunting in the morning or evening, nothing ruins a shoot faster than



Following some simple rules will allow you the opportunity for a successful hunt.

showing up too late. The rule is simple, show up an hour before sunrise and, in most instances, this will usually give you a half hour to set-up your spread, 15 minutes to get settled, and another 15 just in case.

Step 8: Learn to Call the Shots

Another phenomenon that has a tendency to turn a shoot south in a hurry is calling the shots too early or too late. Common banter in any


spread focuses on who will call the shot. Recruit someone who knows how to read birds, anticipate the shot accurately, and understands shooting limitations and success will follow. The key to calling the shot is forecasting how long it will take for gunners to rise up, point and shoot while maximizing opportunity for everyone in the spread. Birds barely in range, and especially those out of range, are generally better left uneducated.

Step 9: Pick a Bird

In the heat of the moment, when the words "take 'em" are heard, one of the leading reasons for misses is shooting into the flock rather than picking one bird. Be sure to select an individual target, swing, mount and shoot. Remember again, wing shooting demands that we point, not aim.

Step 10: Pattern Your Gun

Every gun shoots differently. To understand your shotgun, pattern it at the range. Duck and goose patterning targets are available through shooting supply retailers. Shoot it with different chokes, loads and at variable distances between 10 and 40 metres. Doing this will confirm your pellet pattern with the loads in question and with different chokes. Carry this and the aforementioned information into the field and you're apt to cash in on your next Alberta waterfowl hunt. ■



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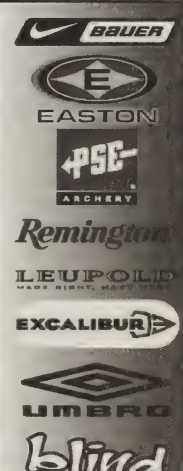
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The region is a wildlife playground all year round, a fact not lost on outfitters across the province. Given the multitude of hunting zones in the area, a hunter can be in the region from mid-summer right through to the end of fall/beginning of winter. Bow hunting for some big game animals starts at the end of August and a few game birds can still be shot in mid-December.

The old saying that "variety is the spice of life" certainly applies to the northeast portion of Alberta. Local hunters pride themselves on the fact that there are a lot of big heads and big racks being taken in the region. Whitetail deer, black bears and Canada Geese are plentiful while moose and mule deer are not as numerous and are regulated on the draw system. Game counts fluctuate each year so be sure you're aware of each hunting zone's different annual regulations.

The Bonnyville/Cold Lake/Lac La Biche Region is situated in the heart of Alberta's Lakeland so there are plenty of sloughs and small lakes that game birds can land on in the fall as they head south towards warmer climes. It is not uncommon to hear the sound of Canada Geese overhead as huge flocks fill the sky.

Tired after a long day in the woods and not in the mood to skulk around searching for accommodation? No need to worry. Hunting enthusiasts won't have to hunt for a place to grab a warm meal and enjoy a pleasant night's sleep. There are plenty of hotels and bed and breakfasts throughout the region that welcome hunters in the late summer, fall and early winter. Bonnyville, Lac La Biche and the City of Cold Lake are the major service areas, offering a multitude of amenities and entertainment options. Bed and breakfasts in



the surrounding rural municipalities offer quick access to the backcountry as well as good meals, good company and a comfortable place to stay.

It's advisable to plan ahead, however. The region is so popular for hunters that many outfitters report being booked solid up to a year in advance.

So the next time you're planning a hunting trip, be sure to give the Bonnyville/Cold Lake/Lac La Biche Region a shot. After all, we've got game!



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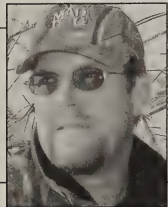
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ON DEER PATTERNS



by
**Brad
Fenson**

Pre-season scouting for deer is proven to be very beneficial for locating big bucks.

Getting into the field early provides plenty of lead time to contact landowners and line up access for the fall. Fields are scouted and different crop types identified to help find deer utilizing the protein rich bounty. With the rotation of agricultural cereal grains and forage it's important to know where the best feed is, as it can change on a yearly basis.

I still prefer walking the edge of fields and well defined game trails to key in on the best spots. Tracks, rubs and other sign are simple to identify, making it easier to determine if deer are concentrated or well dispersed. I always carry a pair of binoculars and continually search the area in front of me as I'm scouting. If you're trying to pattern deer the last thing you want to do is bump them from their routine.

New technologies have made scouting much easier and I always run a series of trail cameras where I find big tracks or a concentration of animals. The cameras work 24/7 and don't disturb animals at all. Nothing beats having a close up image of a buck that allows you to look at antler growth, see what time animals are traveling and most importantly, what patterns or habits individual animals develop.

Late summer and early fall is the time to get started. With the agricultural smorgasbord in the fields deer tend to be in the open with regularity and are much easier to locate. Open areas are often preferred by deer trying to avoid the swarms of insects that are concentrated in the protective cover of the forest. Direct sunlight and a gentle breeze provide a break from the

blood thirsty insects that must drive deer crazy at times. Don't be surprised if you find deer simply living in one of the agricultural fields that are still standing. It isn't uncommon to find mule or white-tailed deer in a standing canola, barley or oat field late in the summer.

One of Alberta's largest non-typical whitetails was harvested in the Peace country on opening day of the general season in mid September. The deer had been observed using the same field with regularity and a quick check on opening day proved to be extremely fruitful. At this time of year deer haven't been pressured by any form of hunting and are often content living in a relatively small area that provides the food, water and shelter they require.

Early fall is when deer patterns start to change. The leaves fall from the trees and crops are harvested, which changes the security for animals. Hiding in the expanse of standing crop is no different than living in a large wooded area but once the crops are harvested the deer will start to become more reclusive. This can be a difficult time to find deer consistently, as

crops are harvested and deer bounce around depending on agricultural activities. Smaller woodlots adjacent to prime feeding locations are often overlooked by hunters but are worth checking.

Mid fall is one of my favorite times to pin down a big buck. Deer start to set scrapes in mid October and will visit them on a daily basis to ensure they are well established. The scrapes are a buck's calling card and developing them early ensures the does will have time to locate prime bucks. Bucks become active and territorial and start trying to determine dominance amongst rivals in the area. In anticipation of the rut bucks are easily patterned when developing their primary and



Find the best food sources and the deer are sure to show up.

secondary scrape lines.

Hike the ridge tops, edge of wetlands and key game trails to find scrapes. They are normally laid out in a semi-circular pattern to cover a wide area. Bucks will start on one end of their line and work it into the wind. It isn't uncommon to find some serious rubs on big trees, fence posts or even telephone poles where bucks are working to build their neck and chest muscles before the rut heats up. Scrapes are a favorite location to set up trail cameras and an active site will produce pictures or numerous bucks that are also checking out the competition. Deciphering all the sign in a specific area will help you to locate, or see a pattern, amongst big bucks in the area.

Late October through early November is the time to hunt patterned scrape lines for consistency and treestands or ground blinds can be placed in advance of your hunt to reduce scent or visibility. The bucks are starting to check and follow does, which will often visit scrapes when traveling

Mule buck bedded in a standing grain field early in the season.

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1. There are no extra wild game tags allotted for this program. You are asked to share the harvest from any one of the general season, supplementary or undersubscribed elk, moose or deer tags that are available.
2. Only elk, moose or deer that have been harvested between October 25 and December 15, 2008 during the regular general seasons are eligible for this program.
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To find the complete donation guidelines and the list of participating meat processors, please call our 24 hour information line at 780-443-6006. Or you can visit the Hunting for Tomorrow website at www.huntingfortomorrow.com. Our wild game donation information is found under their **Facts and Fiction** section under **Fact #11**.

You can also contact the **Alberta Hunters Who Care** Supervisors: Jim Thomson at 780-962-9452 or Gordon Corcoran at 780-842-3774.

Thank you for sharing your harvest with those in need!!



APOS



Pattern the does and the bucks will show up.

get more difficult to pattern and they visit the scrapes with less consistency, as they start to chase and follow does. It's still worth hunting scrapes but key travel corridors that were found in heavy cover areas are a great place to move your cameras to. Watch scrapes for activity, as secondary scrapes will be abandoned, while the primary sites will become prime locations for a number of bucks trying to hone in on the action.

Mid November to early December is when all your scouting may really pay off. Bucks are rutting hard and can show up anywhere. There really isn't any set pattern that bucks will be using but it is the does that you've patterned that will improve your odds of finding that monster buck. Look for key travel areas in secluded woodlots, wetlands or natural valleys and draws that are used by concentrations of does and fawns. The bucks are sure to show up and the secluded areas are where bucks will travel back and forth to their preferred habitats after courting a doe that may have pulled him away from his preferred area. Anything goes this time of year so hunt all day. I shot a nice whitetail buck last year late in the morning as he worked his way back to the security of a large wooded area. The deer had been off chasing does all night and was iced up from all the activity during the cold weather. Knowing that the travel corridor was active with does helped me to decide to set up in the location and put in some time.

Your early season scouting can really pay off late in the season as you've already identified the best food sources, concentrations of deer and key travel corridors. The deer do change their patterns as the seasons progress from summer to fall and into the winter. The good news is that the animal usually get more concentrated and if you've done your homework you'll know exactly where the key spots are.

I've heard many hunters tell me that bucks are impossible to pattern once the rut kicks in. That may be true, but the antlerless deer and some knowledge of the area will provide the knowledge for you to pick the high percentage spots to set up. The bucks may be difficult to pin down but chances are the does are as consistent as they've been all year.

Whether you're a still hunter or partial to treestands or blinds, setting up with confidence will change your outlook on any hunting season. Get into the field early and start to establish some patterns for your favorite hunting area. ■

between feeding and bedding areas. I've taken some of my best bucks while they were standing right in their primary scrape and the only reason I knew to set up there was due to the time I'd spent patterning them.

Early to mid November the rut starts to kick in and bucks will be traveling more. The deer

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The Skinny on Alberta's MULE DEER



by
**Duane
Radford**

I doubt that most Albertans have ever seen mule deer hunting as good as it is these days in terms of their overall abundance, distribution and especially the number of outstanding trophies being taken over the past several years. I think it's going to get even better under the present management program if the relatively mild winters continue in the future. Actually, it's almost "too good to be true" mule deer hunting, and it has to stop sometime soon, so get out and enjoy this bounty of nature while it lasts.

For the statistical buffs, in 2006 (the last year for which official records are available online) the number of mule deer hunters in Alberta was 33,638 with an estimated harvest of 18,286 animals and a whopping 54 % success rate—the highest overall for elk, mule deer,



Alberta is quickly becoming well-known for its quality mule deer.

Alberta's Rockies. The best-eating mule deer I've feasted on was a September giant taken by my hunting partner in the Carbondale drainage in 1969, which weighed in at the local butcher shop at 169 pounds, dressed.

Jack Graham, past president of the Alberta Fish and Game Association (AFGA) and Dean of Alberta Boone & Crockett official scorers, told me in an interview that perhaps as many as six mule deer might make the book annually with most coming from the mighty Peace River country. Graham said that the Peace country bucks usually have massive-beamed antlers that tend to score

better than their prairie cousins with relatively light beams, by comparison.

The top two mule deer entered in the 2008 AFGA Wildlife Awards were: (1) Non-typical mule deer – 233 6/8 taken by Karl Zimmer of Edmonton in Flagstaff County (headquartered in Sedgewick); (2) Typical mule deer – 196 4/8 on the Red Deer River by Colin Campbell of Blackfalds. Wow!!

Alberta's historical mule deer population plateaued in the 1950s with estimated numbers over 150,000, then declined in the 1960s and early 1970s—estimated fewer than 60,000—due to some tough winters and what was then seen as a rather liberal harvest regime, according to government records. The population increased to an estimated 86,000 in 1985 just prior to publication of the *Management Plan for Mule Deer in Alberta*

(1989) under a more conservative harvest regime following some successive mild winters. This somewhat dated management plan is posted online on the Sustainable Resource Development (SRD) website at the following link:

(<http://www.srd.gov.ab.ca/fishwildlife/livingwith/huntingalberta/pdf/MgmtPlanMuleDeer.pdf>).

One of the goals of the management plan was to increase the provincial mule deer herd to 97,000 from the 1985 estimate of 86,000 while providing a variety of hunting opportunities (e.g. any buck, trophy bucks, antlerless deer and archery only areas).

At present, Alberta's mule deer provincial population estimate is 185,000. This is one of the main reasons why SRD has adopted a more liberal set of hunting regulations over the past several years to try to curb its skyrocketing growth. During the 1970s and '80s government officials tried various hunting regulations for mule deer, finally deciding that in order to produce some quality bucks it would be necessary to factor in better escapement into the management regime. Previous to this era, regulations such as the old 4-point rule had been tried with limited success. The best way to achieve better carryover of mature bucks was

continued on page 94



The telltale rump of a mule deer.

moose and white-tailed deer that year.

Since 1997, Sports Scene Publications Inc. has presented the Annual Hunters of the Year award for elk, mule deer and white-tailed deer. Looking back through the years one can't help but notice that mule deer have won the top category in five of the last 10 years, in a province that's world renowned for *monster* white-tailed deer. Well, the secret is finally out, Alberta's also renowned for some terrific mule deer and they are coming from all over the province: the prairies, foothills and boreal forest. I know from personal experience there are some outstanding bucks for the taking in

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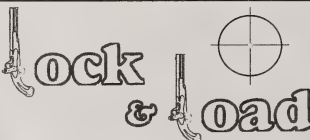
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Mule buck with a harem of does.

received widespread support among most hunters because it created relatively large populations throughout the province with some dandy bucks.

While the bighorn sheep is widely viewed as Alberta's most renowned trophy, and rightly so, mule deer are beginning to finally get some recognition they deserve. In the 2007 *Edition Alberta's Professional Outfitter*—the official magazine of the Alberta Professional Outfitters Society—the editor wrote: "...one of the best-kept secrets in the mule deer hunting world is the province of Alberta. Most hunters are surprised to find that Alberta holds the World Record for Non-Typical Mule Deer at



Alberta's mule deer population is estimated at 185,000 animals.

355 2/8 Boone & Crockett inches. A record that has stood for over 80 years and may never be broken." This, of course, is the famous "Broder Buck," taken by Ed Broder in 1926 near Chip Lake west of Edmonton. It is one of the most outstanding of all big game trophies ever taken in North America.

One of the most enjoyable aspects of mule deer hunting is the "spot-stalk-shoot" opportunities they afford throughout the province. "Let your glasses do the walking," then plan a stalk and get in position for a shot. First off, find yourself a good vantage point and start looking for the "signature" white rump patches on mule deer, a surefire giveaway if there ever was one. Although prime feeding times are after day break and before sunset they can be found in the open or bedded down during the day, most often in a sheltered spot that is out of the wind. Mule deer are primarily browsers and eat forbs (e.g. flowers), shrubs or trees and grasses. They also have a taste for cereal crops and alfalfa in farming country. Once you've spotted your quarry, it's time to plot a stalk—make sure that you

determined to be by using a special licence draw for both antlered and antlerless mule deer, with the caveat that hunters may not possess both an antlered mule deer special licence and a (general) mule deer licence.

In 2007 most of Alberta's WMUs were being managed under this system which

keep a low profile to stay out of sight and approach downwind.

I've found that full camo clothing is a definite asset when hunting mule deer and has paid great dividends over the years. Even if your cover is busted during a stalk, often times the deer will hold tight and just watch you if you remain still—they know something's out there but they can't seem to figure out just what the threat actually represents.

The highly popular .270, .308 and 30.06 calibers will all do the job on mule deer, with 150 grain bullets being more than adequate. I've taken many mule deer with a .270 Winchester caliber rifle, one of my favourite calibers, loaded with 130 grain bullets, most times with just one killing shot—lung shots are deadly on deer.

I'm sure that most hunters would agree that the *Management Plan for Mule Deer in Alberta* (1989) is on track! As I mentioned earlier though, don't put off a mule deer hunt, take advantage of their abundance and sizes of bucks while they last! ■

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Darcy Barrett (\$250)

Darcy Barrett of High River, Alberta is our 2007 Alberta Elk Hunter of the Year. Darcy's bull scored 354 4/8" and was taken out of WMU 300B near Waterton. Darcy wins \$250 for his bull and earns bragging rights around the campfire for 2008.
Congratulations Darcy!



MULE DEER
Colin Campbell (\$500)

Colin Campbell of Blackfalds, Alberta is our Mule Deer Champion and Alberta Hunter of the Year after taking home this tremendous deer. Colin's buck grosses 200 5/8" and nets a super 196 4/8". Colin took his buck in WMU 208 near Big Valley.
Congratulations Colin on a fine deer!



WHITE-TAILED DEER
Jason Klaus (\$250)

Jason Klaus of Castor, Alberta is our 2007 Alberta White-tailed Deer Hunter of the Year. Jason took this great buck in WMU 164 near Coronation. Jason's buck has it all grossing 199 3/8 and netting a final score of 191 7/8". Jason wins \$250 for his 2007 whitetail.
Way to go Jason!

ALBERTA OUTDOORSMEN MAGAZINE presents the 2008 ALBERTA HUNTERS OF THE YEAR

RULES

- 1) Any Alberta resident hunting legally in Alberta may enter.
- 2) Typically scored Whitetail, Mule Deer and Elk are the eligible species. Non-Typical scores will not qualify.
- 3) A hunter may enter only one animal per species.
- 4) All qualifying game must be taken under "Fair Chase" as defined by the Boone and Crockett Club.
- 5) All qualifying game must be scored by an Official Measurer and cannot be scored until after the trophy has dried for 60 or more days after harvest date.
- 6) Each entrant must submit a photo of themselves with their trophy, as well as a photo of the trophy by itself. All photos become the property of Sports

Scene and may be reproduced at Sports Scene's discretion.

- 7) Each entrant must follow all Boone and Crockett Trophy Entry Requirements and a copy of the original score chart, signed and dated by the Official Measurer, must be sent to Sports Scene along with photos.
- 8) Sports Scene Publications Inc. reserves the right to reject or accept any entry and all decisions will be final.
- 9) The Grand Prize will be awarded to the hunter whose trophy won its category and came closest (on percentage basis) to the current provincial record for that species.
- 10) All prizes must be accepted as awarded.
- 11) Contest opens 2008 hunting season start and closes June 1, 2009.

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2008 HUNTER OF THE YEAR ENTRY FORM

NAME: _____ DIVISION: Whitetail ___ Mule Deer ___ Elk ___
ADDRESS: _____ WMU where trophy was taken: _____
CITY: _____ Nearest Town or City: _____
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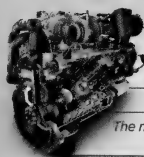
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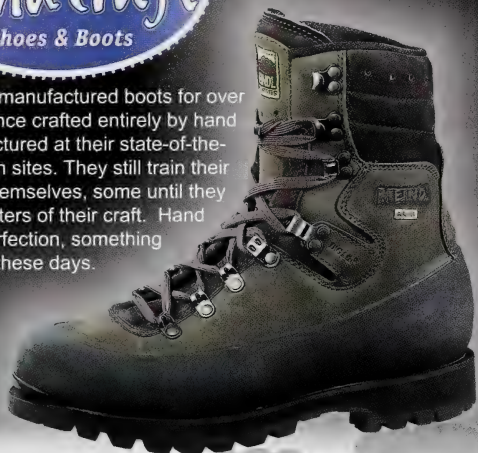
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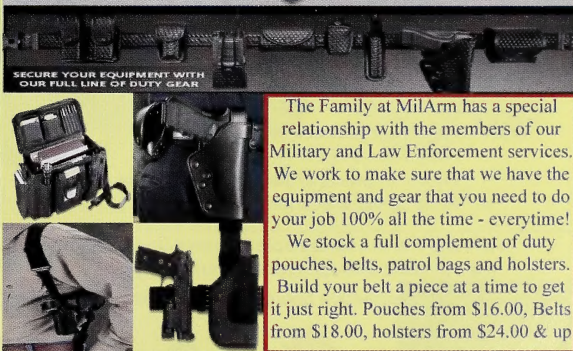


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Aerial surveys provide valuable information for wildlife managers to determine:

- Population size and composition
- Population trends
- Effects of previous management actions
- Hunting tag allocations.

ACA and Alberta Sustainable Resource Development work in partnership to conduct aerial surveys, many of which are made possible through levies on hunting tags.

For more information about Aerial Ungulate Surveys and survey results visit our website or call toll free 1-877-969-9091.



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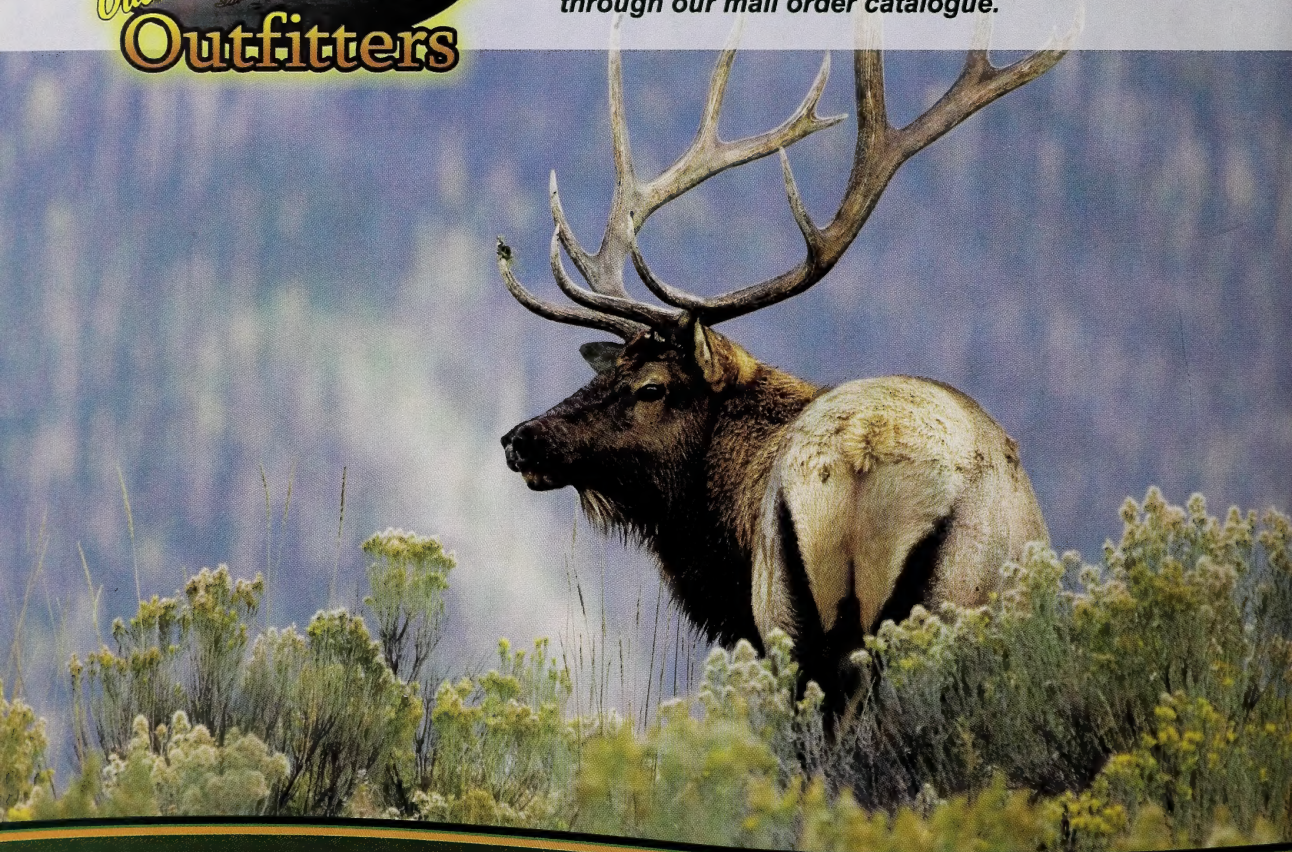


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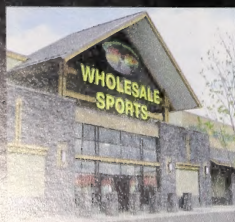
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